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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives:

In obedience to the command of the Constitution, it has now become my duty "to give to Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures" as I judge to be "necessary and expedient."

COMMERCIAL AND MONETARY.

But first, and above all, our thanks are due to Almighty God for the numerous benefits which He has bestowed upon this people; and our united prayers ought to ascend to Him that He would continue to bless our great Republic in time to come as He has blessed it in time past. Since the adjournment of the last Congress our constituents have enjoyed an unusual degree of health. The earth has yielded her fruits abundantly, and has bountifully rewarded the toil of the husbandman.—Our great staples ave commanded high prices, and, up till within a brief period, our manufacturing, mineral, and mechanical occupations have largely partaken of the general prosperity. We have possessed all the elements of material wealth in rich abundance, and yet, notwithstanding all these advantages, our country, in its monetary interests, is at the present moment in a deplorable condition. In the midst of unsurpassed plenty in all the productions of agriculture and in all the elements of national wealth, we find our manufactures suspended, our public works retarded, our private enterprises of different kinds abandoned, and thousands of useful laborers thrown out of employment and reduced to want. The revenue of the Government, which is chiefly derived from duties on imports from abroad, has been greatly reduced, whilst the appropriations made by Congress at its last session for the current fiscal year are very large in amount.

Under these circumstances a loan may be required before the close of your present session; but this, although deeply to be regretted, would prove to be only a slight misfortune when compared with the suffering and distress prevailing among the people. With this the Government cannot fall deeply to sympathize, though it may be without the power to extend relief.

It is our duty to inquire what has produced such unfortunate results, and whether their recurence can be prevented? In all former revulsions the blame might have been fairly attributed to a variety of cooperating causes; but not so upon the present occasion. It is apparent that our existing misfortunes have proceeded solely from our extravagant, vicious system of paper currency and bank credits, exciting the people to wild speculations and gambling in stocks. These revulsions must continue to recur at successive intervals so long as the amount of the paper currency and bank loans and discounts of the country shall be left to the discretion of fourteen hundred irresponsible banking institutions, which, from the very law of their nature, will consult the interest of their stockholders rather than the public welfare.

The framers of the Constitution, when they gave to Congress the power "to coin money and to regulate the value thereof," and prohibited the States from coining money, emitting bills of credit, or making anything but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts, supposed they had protected the people against the evils of an excessive and irredeemable paper currency. They are not responsible for the existing anomaly, that a Government endowed with the sovereign attribute of coining money and regulating the value thereof, should have no power to prevent others from driving this coin out of the country and filling up the channels of circulation with paper which does not represent gold and silver.

It is one of the highest and most responsible duties of Government to insure to the people a sound circulating medium, the amount of which ought to be adapted with the utmost possible wisdom and skill to the wants of internal trade and foreign exchanges. If this be either greatly above or greatly below the proper standard, the marketable value of every man's property is increased or diminished in the same proportion, and injustice to individuals, as well as incalculable evils to the community, are the consequences.

Unfortunately, under the construction of the Federal Constitution, which has now prevailed too long to be changed, this important and delicate duty has been disserved from the coining power, and virtually transferred to more than fourteen hundred State Banks, acting independently of each other, and regulating their paper issues almost exclusively by a regard to the present interest of their stockholders. Exercising the sovereign power of providing a paper currency, instead of coin, for the country, the first duty which these banks owe to the public is to keep in their vaults a sufficient amount of gold and silver to insure the convertibility of their notes into coin at all times and under all circumstances. No bank ought ever to be chartered without such restrictions on its business as to secure this result. All other restrictions are comparatively vain. This is the only true touchstone, the only efficient regulator of a paper currency—the only one which can guard the public against over-issues and bank suspensions. As a collateral and eventual security it is doubtless wise, and in all cases ought to be required, that banks shall hold an amount of United States or State securities equal to their notes in circulation, and pledged for their redemption.—This, however, furnishes no adequate security against over issues. On the contrary, it may be perverted to inflate the currency. Indeed it is possible by this means to convert all the debts of the United States and State governments into bank notes, without reference to the specie required to redeem them. However valuable these securities may be in themselves, they cannot be converted into gold and silver at the moment of pressure, as our experience teaches, in sufficient time to prevent bank suspensions and the depreciation of bank notes. In England, which is to a considerable extent a paper-money country, though vastly behind our own in this respect it was deemed advisable, anterior to the act of Parliment of 1844, which wisely seperated the issue of notes from the banking department, for the Bank of England always to keep on hand gold and silver equal to one-third of its combined circulation and deposits. If this proportion was no more than sufficient to secure the convertibility of its notes, with the whole of Great Britain, and to some extent the continent of Europe, as a field for its circulation, rendering it almost impossible that a sudden and immediate run to a dangerous amount should be made upon it, the same proportion would certainly be insufficient under our bank system. Each of our fourteen hundred banks has put a limited circumference for its circulation, and in the course of a very few days the depositors and note holders might demand from such bank a sufficient amount in specie to compel it to suspend, even although it had coin in its vaults equal to one-third of its immediate liabilities. And yet I am not aware, with the exception of the banks of Louisiana, that any State Bank throughout the Union has been required by its charter to keep this or any other proportion of gold and silver compared with the amount of its combined circulation and deposits. What has been the consequence? In a recent report made by the Treasury Depaatment on the condition of the banks throughout the different State, according to returns dated nearest to January, 1857, the aggregate amount of actual specie in their vaults is $58,349,838; of their circulation, —254,778,822; and of their deposits, $230,371,352. Thus it appears that these banks, in the aggregate, have considerably less than one dollar in seven of gold and silver, compared with their circulation and deposits. It was palpable, therefore, that the very first pressure must drive them to suspension, and deprive the people of a convertible currency, with all its its disastrous consequences. It is truly wonderful that they should have so long continued to preserve their credit, when a demand for the payment of one-seventh of their immediate liabilities would have driven them into insolvency.—And this is the condition of the banks, notwithstanding that four hundred millions of gold from California have flowed in upon us within the last eight years, and the tide still continues to flow. Indeed, such has been the extravagence of bank credits that the banks now hold a considerable less amount of specie, either posits combined, than they did before the discovery of gold in California. Whilst in the year 1848 their specie in proportion to their capital was more than equal to one dollar for four and a half, in 1857 it does not amount to one dollar for every six dollars and thirty three cents of their capital. In the year 1848 the specie was equal, within a very small fraction, to one dollar in five of their circulation and deposits; in 1857 it is not equal to one dollar in seven and a half of their circulation and deposits.

From this statement it is easy to account for our financial history for the last forty years. It has been a history of extravagant expansions in the business of the country, followed by ruinous contractions. At successive intervals the best and most enterprising men have been tempted to their ruin by excessive bank loans of mere paper credit, exciting them to extravagant importations of foreign goods, wild speculations, and ruinous and demoralizing stock gambling. When the crisis arrives, as arrive it must, the banks can extend no relief to the people. In a vain struggle to redeem their liabilities in specie, they are compelled to contract their loans and their issues; and of last, in the hour of distress, when their assistance is most needed, they and their debtors together sink into insolvency.

It is this paper system of extravagant expansion, raising the nominal price of every article far beyond its real value, when compared with the cost of similar articles in countries whose circulation is wisely regulated, which has prevented us from competing in our own markets with foreign manufacturers, has produced extravagant importations, and has counteracted the effect of the large incidental protection affording to our domestic manufactures by the present revenue tariff.—But for this the branches of our own manufactures composed of raw materials, the production of our own country—such as cotton, iron, and woolen fabrics—would not only have acquired almost exclusive possession of the home market, but would have created for themselves a foreign market throughout the world.

Deplorable, however, as may be our present financial condition, we may yet indulge in bright hopes for the future. No other nation has ever existed which could have endured such violent expansions and contractions of paper credits without lasting injury; yet the buoyancy of youth, the energies of our population, and the spirit which never quails before difficulties, will enable us soon to recover from our present financial embarrassments, and may even occasiin us speedily to forget the lesson which they have taught.

In the mean time, it is the duty of the Government, by all proper means within its power, to aid in ellevating the suffering of the people occasioned by the suspensions of the banks, and to provide against a recurrence of the same calamity. Unfortunately, in either aspect of the case, it can do but little. Thanks to the Independent Treasury, the Government has not suspended payment, as it was compelled to do by the failure of the banks in 1837. It will continue to discharge its liabilities to the people in gold and silver. Its disbursements in coin will pass into circulation, and materially assist in restoring a sound currency. From its high credit, should we be compelled to make a temporary loan, it can be effected on advantageous terms.—This, however, shall, if possible, be avoided; but if not, then the amount shall be limited to the lowrst practicable sum.

I have, therefore, determined that whilst no useful Government works already in progress shall be suspended, new works, not already commenced, will be postponed, if this can be done without injury to the country.—Those necessary for its defense shall proceed as though there had been no crises in our mometary affairs.

But the federal Government cannot do much to provide against a recurrence of existing evils. Even if insurmountable constitional objections did not exist against the creation of a national bank, this would furnish no adequate preventive security. The history of the last Bank of the United States abundantly proves the truth of this assertion. Such a bank could not, if it would, reculate the issues and credits of fourteen hundred State banks in such a manner as to prevent the ruinous expansions and contractions in our currency which afflicted the country throughout the existence of the late bank, or secure us against future suspensions. In 1825 an effort was made by the Bank of England to curtail the issues of the country banks under the most favorable circumstances. The paper currency had been expanded to a ruinous extent, and the bank put forth all its power to contract it, in order to reduce prices, and restore the equilibrium of the foreign exchanges. It accordingly commenced a system of curtailment of its loans and issues, in the vain hope that the joint stock and private banks of the kingdom would be compelled to follow its example. It found, however, that as it contracted they expanded, and at the end of the process, to employ the language of a very high official authority, "whatever reduction of the paper circulation was affected by the Bank of England [in 1825] was more than made up by the issues of the country banks."

But a bank of the United States would not, if could, restrain the issues and loans of the State banks, because its duty as a regulator of the currency must often be in direct conflict with the immediate interest of its stockholders. If we expect one agent to restrain or control another, their interest must, at least in some degree, be antagonistic. But the directors of a bank of the United States would feel the same interest and the same inclination with the directors of the State banks to expand the currency, to accommodate their favorites and friends with loans, and to declare large dividends. Such has been our experience in regard to the last bank.

After all, we must mainly rely upon the patriotism and wisdom of the States for the prevention and redress of the evil. If they will afford us a real specie basis for our paper circulation by increasing the denomination of bank notes, first to twenty, and afterwards to fifty dollars; if they will require that the banks shall at all times keep on hand at least one dollar of gold and silver for every three dollars of their circulation and deposits; and if they will provide, a self executing enactment which nothing can arrest, that the moment they shall go into liquidation, I believe that such provisions, with a weekly publication by each bank of its condition, would go far to secure us against future suspensions of specie payments.

Congress, in my opinion, possess the power to pass a uniform bankrupt law applicable to all banking institutions throughout the United States, and I strongly recommend its exercise. This would make it the irreversible organic law of each bank's existence, that a suspension of specie payments shall produce its civil death. The instinct of self preservation would then compel it to perform its duties in such a manner as to escape the penalty and preserve its life.

The existence of banks and the circulation of bank paper are so identified with the habits of our people that they cannot at this day be suddenly abolished without much immediate injury to the country. If we could confine them to their appropriate sphere, and prevent them from administering to the spirit of wild and reckless speculation by extravagant loans and issues, they might be continued with advantage to the public.

But this I say, after long and much reflection: if experience shall prove it to be impossible to enjoy the facilities which well regulated banks might afford without at the same time suffering the calamities which the excesses of the banks have hitherto inflicted upon the country, it would then be far the lesser evil to deprive them altogether of the power to issue a paper currency and confine them to the functions of banks of deposit and discount.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Our relations with foreign Governments are, upon the whole, in a satisfactory condition.

The diplomatic difficulties which existed between the Government of the United States and that of Great Britain at the adjournment of the last Congress have been happily terminated by the appointment of a British Minister to this country, who has been cordially received.

Whilst it is greatly to the interest, as I am convinced it is the sincere desire, of the Governments and people of the two countries to be on terms of intimate friendship with each other, it has been our misfortune almost always to have had some irritating, if not dangerous, outstanding question with Great Britain.

Since the origin of the Government we have been employed in negotiating treaties with that power, and afterwards in discussing their true intent and meaning. In this respect, the convention of April 19, 1850, commonly called the Clayton and Bulwer treaty, has been the most unfortunate of all; because the two Governments place directly opposite and contradictory constructions upon its first and most important article. Whilst, in the United States, we believed that this treaty would place both Powers upon an exact equality by this stipulation that neither will ever "occupy, or fortify, or colonize, or assume or exercise any dominion" over any part of Central America, it is contended by the British Government that the true construction of this language has left them in the rightful possession of all that portion of Central America which was in their occupancy at the date of the treaty; in fact, that the treaty is a virtual recognition on the part of the United States of the right of Great Britain, either as owner or protector, to the whole extensive coast of America, sweeping round from the Rio Hondo to the port and harbor of San Juan de Nicaragua, together with the adjacent Bay Islands, except the comparatively small portion of this between the Sarstoon and Cape Honduras. According to their construction, the treaty does no more than simply prohibit them from extending their possessions in Central America beyond the present limits. It is not too much to assert, that if in the United States the treaty had been considered susceptible of such a construction, it never would have been negotiated under the authority of the President, nor would it have received the approbation of the Senate. The universal conviction in the United States was, that when our Government consented to violate its traditional and time honored policy, and to stipulate with a foreign Government to occupy or acquire territory in the Central American portion of our own continent, the consideration for this sacrifice was that Great Britain should, in this respect at least, be placed in the same position with ourselves. Whilst we have no right to doubt the sincerity of the British Government in their construction of the treaty, it is at the same time my deliberate conviction that this construction is in opposition both to its letter and its spirit.

Under the late Administration negotiations were instituted between the two Governments for the purpose, if possible, of removing these difficulties; and a treaty having this laudable object in view was signed at London on the 17th of October, 1856, and was submitted by the President to the Senate on the following 10th of December. Whether this treaty, either in its original or amended form, would have accomplished the object intended without giving birth to new and embarrassing complications between the two Governments, may perhaps be well questioned. Certain it is however, it was rendered much less objectionable by the different amendments made to it by the Senate. The treaty, as amended, was ratified by me on the 12th March, 1857, and was transmitted to London for ratification by the Brittsh Government. That Government expressed its willingness to concur in all the amendments made by the Senate, with the single exception of the clause relating to Roatan and the other islands in the Bay of Honduras. The article in the original treaty, as submitted to the Senate, after reciting that these islands and their inhabitants "having been by a convention bearing date the 27th day of August, 1856, between her Britannic Majesty and the Republic of Honduras, constituted and declared a free territory, under the sovereignty of the said Republic of Honduras," stigulated that "the two contracting parties do hereby mutually engage to recognize and respect, in all future time, the independence and rights of the said free territory as a part of the Republic of Honduras."

Upon an examination of this convention between Great Britain and Honduras of the 27th August, 1856, it was found that, whilst declaring the Bay Islands to be "a free territory under the sovreignty of the Republic of Honduras," it deprived that Republic of rights without which its sovereignty over them could scarcely be said to exist. It divided them from the remainder of Honduras, and gave to their inhabitants a separate government of their own, with legislative, executive, and judicial officers, elected by themselves.—It deprived the Government of Honduras of the taxing power in every form, and exempted the people of the island from the performance of military duty except for their own exclusive defence. It also prohibited that Republic from erecting fortifications upon them for their protection—thus leaving them open to invasion from any quarter; and, finally it provided "that slavery shall not at any time hereafter be permitted to exist therein."

Had Honduras ratified this convention she would have ratified the establishment of a State substantially independent within her own limits, and a State at all times subject to British influence and control. Moreover, had the United States ratified the treaty with Great Britain in its original form, we should have been bound "to recognize and respect in all future time" these stipulations to the prejudice of Honduras. Being in direct opposition to the spirit and meaning of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty as understood in the United States the Senate rejected the entire clause, and substituted in its stead a simple recognition of the sovreign right of Honduras to these islands in the following language:

"The two contracting parties do hereby mutually engage to recognize and respect the Islands of Roatan, Bonaco, Utila, Barbaretta, Helenx and Morat, situate in the Bay of Honduras, and off the coast of the Republic of Honduras, as under the sovreignty and as part of the said Republic of Honduras."

Great Britain rejected this amendment, assigning as the only reason, that the ratifications of the convention of the 27th August, 1856, between her and Honduras had not been "exchanged, owing to the hesitation of that Government." Had this been done, it is stated that "her Majesty's Government would have had little difficulty in agreeing to the modification proposed by the Senate, which then would have had in effect the same signification as the original wording." Whether this would have been the effect; whether the mere circumstance of the exchange of the ratifications of the British convention with Honduras prior in point of time to the ratification of our treaty with Great Britain would, "in effect," have had "the same signification as the original wording," and thus have nullified the amendment of the Senate, may well be doubted. It is, perhaps, fortunate that the question has never arisen.

The British Government, immediately after rejecting the treaty as amended, proposed to enter into a new treaty with the United States, similar in all respect to the treaty which they had just refused to ratify, if the United States would consent to add to the Senate's clear and unqualified recognition of the sovreignty of Honduras over the Bay Islands, the following conditional stipulation:

"Whenever and so soon as the Republic of Honduras shall have concluded and ratified a treaty with Great Britain, by which Great Britain shall have ceded, and the Republic of Honduras shall have accepted, the said islands subject to the provisions and conditions contained in such treaty."

This proposition was, of course, rejected.—After the Senate had refused to recognize the British convention with Honduras of the 27th August, 1856, with full knowledge of its contents, it was impossible for me, necessarily ignorant of "the provisions and conditions" which might be contained in a future convention between the same parties, to sanction them in advance.

The fact is, that when two nations like Great Britain and the United State, mutually desirous as they are, and I trust ever may be, of maintaining the most friendly relations with each other, have unfortunately concluded a treaty which they understand in senses directly opposite, the wisest course is to abrogate such a treaty by mutual consent, and to commence anew. Had this been done promptly, all difficulties in Central America would most probably ere this have been adjusted to the satisfaction of both parties. The time spent in discussing the meaning of the Clayton and Bulwer treaty would have been devoted to this praise worthy purpose, and the task would have been the more easily accomplished because the interest of the two countries in Central America is identical, being confined to securing safe transists over all the routes across the isthmus.

Whilst entertaining these sentiments, I shall nevertheless not refuse to contribute to any reasonable adjustment of the Central American questions which is not practically inconsistent with the American interpretation of the treaty. Overtures for this purpose have been recently made by the British Government in a friendly spirit, which I cordially reciprocate; but whether this renewed effort will result in success I am not yet prepared to express an opinion. A brief period will determine.

With France our ancient relations of friendship still continue to exist. The French Government have in several recent instances, which need not be enumerated, evinced a spirit of good will and kindness towards our country which I heartily reciprocate. It is, notwithstanding, much to be regretted that two nations whose productions are of such a character as to invite the most extensive exchanges, and freest commercial intercourse, should continue to enforce ancient and obsolete restrictions of trade against each other.—Our commercial treaty with France is, in this respect, an exception from our treaties with all other commercial nations. It jealously levies discriminating duties both on tonnage and on articles, the growth, produce, or manufacture of the one country, when arriving in vessels belonging to the other.

More than forty years ago, on the 3d of March, 1815, Congress passed an act offering to all nations to admit their vessels laden with their national productions into the ports of the United States upon the same terms with our own vessels, provided they would reciprocate to us similar advantages. This act confined the reciprocity to the productions of the respective foreign nations who might enter into the proposed arrangement with the United States. The act of May 24, 1828, removed this restriction, and offered a similar reciprocity to all such vessels without reference to the origin of their cargoes. Upon these principles, our commercial treaties and arrangements have been founded, except with France; and let us hope that this exception may not long exist.

Our relations with Russia remain, as they have ever been, on the most friendly footing. The present Emperor, as well as his predecessors, have never failed, when the occasion offered, to manifest their good will to our country; and their friendship has always been highly appreciated by the Government and people of the United States.

With all other European Governments, except that of Spain, our relations are as peaceful as we could desire. I regret to say that no progress whatever has been made since the adjournment of Congress towards the settlement of any of the numerous claims of our citizens against the Spanish Government. Besides, the outrage committed on our flag by the Spanish war frigate Ferolana on the high seas, off the coast of Cuba, in March, 1855, by firing into the American mail steamer El Dorado, and detaining and searching her, remains unacknowledged and unredressed. The general tone and temper of the Spanish Government towards that of the United States are much to be regretted. Our present Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Madrid has asked to be recalled; and it is my purpose to send out a new Minister to Spain, with special instructions on all questions pending between the two Governments, and with a determination to have them speedily and amicably adjusted, if this be possible. In the mean time, when ever our Minister urges the just claims of our citizens on the notice of the Spanish Government, he is met with the objection that Congress has never made the appropriation recommended by President Polk in his annual message of December, 1847, "to be paid to the Spanish Government for the purpose of distributing among the claimants in the Armistead case." A similar recommendation was made by my immediate predecessor in his message of December, 1853; and entirely concurring with both in the opinion that this indemnity is justly due under the treaty with Spain of the 27th October, 1795 I earnestly recommend such an appropriation to the favorable consideration of Congress.

A treaty of friendship and commerce was concluded at Constantinople on the 13th of December, 1856, between the United States and Persia, the ratifications of which were exchanged at Constantinople on the 13th of June, 1857, and the treaty was proclaimed by the President on the 18th August, 1857. This treaty, it is believed, will prove beneficial to American commerce. The Sha has manifested an earnest disposition to cultivate friendly relations with our country, and has expressed a strong wish that we should be represented at Teheran by a minister plenipotentiary; and I recommend that an appropriation be made for this purpose.

Recent occurrences in China have been unfavorable to a revision of the treaty with that Empire of the 3d July, 1844, with a view to the security and extension of our commerce. The twenty fourth article of this treaty stipulated for a revision of it, in case experience should prove this to be requisite; "in which case the two Governments will, at the expiration of twelve years from the date of said convention, treat amicably concerning the same, by means of suitable persons appointed to conduct such negotiations." These twelve years expired on the 3d July, 1856; but long before that period it was ascertained that important changes in the treaty were necessary; and several fruitless attempts were made by the Commissioner of the United States to effect these changes. Another effort was about to be made for the same purpose by our Commissioner, in conjunction with the Ministers of England and France, but this was suspended by the occurrence of hostilities in the Canton river between Great Britain and the Chinese Empire. These hostilities have necessarily interrupted the trade of all nations with Canton, which is now in a state of blockade, and have occasioned a serious loss of life and property. Meanwhile the insurrection within the Empire against the existing imperial dynasty still continues, and it is difficult to anticipate what will be the result.

Under these circumstances, I have deemed it advisable to appoint a distinghished citizen of Pennsylvania Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to proceed to China, and to avail himself of any opportunities which may offer to effect changes in the existing treaty favorable to the American commerce. He left the United States for the place of his destination in July last in the war steamer Minnesota. Special Ministers to China have also been appointed by the Governments of Great Britain and France.

Whilst our Minister has been instructed to occupy a neutral position in reference to the existing hostilities at Canton, he will cordially co-operate with the British and French Ministers in all peaceful measures to secure, by treaty stipulations, those just concessions to commesce which the nations of the world have a right to expect, and which China cannot long be permitted to withhold. From assurances received, I entertain no doubt that the three Ministers will act in harmonious concert to obtain similar commercial treaties for each of the powers they represent.

CONTINENTAL RELATIONS.

We cannot fail to feel a deep interest in all that concerns the welfare of the independent Republic on our own continent, as well as of the Empire of Brazil.

Our difficulties with New Grenada, which a short time since bore so threatening an aspect, are, it is to be hoped, in a fair train of settlement in a manner just and honorable to both parties.

The isthmus of Central America, including that of Panama, is the great highway between the Atlantic and Pacific, over which a large portion of the commerce of the world is destined to pass. The United States are more deeply interested than any other nation in preserving the freedom and security of all the communications acsoss this isthmus. It is our duty, therefore, to take care that they shall not be interrupted either by invasion from our own country or by wars between the independent State of Central America.—Under our treaty with New Granada of the 12th Dec. 1846, we are bound to guarauty the neutrality of the Isthmus of Panama, through which the panamu railroad passes, "as well as the rights of sovreignty and property which New Granada has and possesses over the said territory." This obligation is founded upon equivalents granted by the treaty to the Government and people of the United States.

Under these circumstances, I recommend to Congress the passage of an act authorizing the President in case of necessity, to employ the land and naval forces of the United States to carry into effect this guarantee of neutrality and protection I also recommend similar lenislation for the security of any other route across the Isthmus in which we may acquire an interest by treaty.

FILLIBUSTERING.

With the independent Republics on this continent it is both our duty and our interest to cultivate the most friendly relations. We can never feel indifferent to their fate, and must always rejoice in their prosperity.—Unfortunately both for them and for us, our example and advice have lost much of their influence in consequence of the lawless expeditions which have been fitted out against some of them within the limits of our country. Nothing is better calculated to retard our steady material progress, or impair our character as a nation, than the toleration of such enterprises in violation of the law of nations.

It is one of the first and highest duties of any independent State, in its relations with the members of the great family of nations to restrain its people from acts of hostile aggression against their citizens or subjects.—The most eminent writers on public law do not hesitate to denounce such hostile acts as robbery and murder.

Weak and feeble States, like those of Central America, may not feel themselves able to assert and vindicate their rights. The case would be far different if expeditions were set on foot within our own territories to make private war against a powerful nation. If such expeditions were fitted out from abroad against any portion of our own country, to burn down our cities, murder and plunder our people, and usurp our Government, we should call any Power on earth to the strictest account for not preventing such enormities.

Ever since the administration of General Washington, acts of Congress have been in force to punish to punish severely the crime of setting on foot a military expedition within the limits of the United States, to proceed from thence against a nation or State with whom we are at peace. The present neutrality act of April 20, 1818, is but little more than a collection of preexisting laws. Under this act the President is empowered to employ the land and naval forces and the militia "for the purpose of preventing the carrying on of any such expedition or enterprise from the territories and jurisdiction of the United States; and the collectors of customs are authorized and required to detain any vessel in port when there is reason to believe she is about to take part in such lawless enterprises.

When it was first rendered probable that an attempt would be made to get up another unlawful expedition against Nicaragua, the Secretary of State issued instructions to the marshalls and district attorneys, which were directed, by the Secretaries of War and Navy, to the appropriate Army and Navy officers, requiring them to be vigilant, and to use their best exertions in carrying into effect the provisions of the act of 1818. Notwithstanding these precautions, the expedition has escaped from our shores. Such enterprises can do no possible good to our country, but have already inflicted much injury both upon its interests and its character. They have prevented peaceful emigration from the United States to the States of Central America, which could not fail to prove highly beneficial to all parties concerned. In a pecuniary point of view alone, our citizens have sustained heavy losses from the seizure and closing of the transit route by the San Juan between the two oceans.

The leader of the recent expedition was

arrested at New Orleans, but was discharged on giving bail for his appearance in the insufficient sum of two thousand dollars.

I commend the whole subject to the serious attention of Congress, believing that our duty and our interest, as well as our national character, require that we should adopt such measures as will be effectual in restraining our citizens from committing such outrages.

RELATIONS WITH PARAGUAY.

I regret to inform you that the President of Paraguay has refused to ratify the treaty between the United States and that State, as amended by the Senate, the signature of which was mentioned in the message of my predecessor to Congress at the opening of its session in December 1853. The reasons assigned for this refusal will appear in the correspondence herewith submitted.

It being desirable to ascertain the fitness of the river La Plata and its tributaries for navigation by steam, the United States steamer Water Witch was sent thither for that purpose in 1853. This enterprise was successfully carried on until February, 1855, when, whilst in the peaceful prosecution of her voyage up the Parana river, the steamer was fired upon by a Paraguayan fort. The fire was returned; but, as the Water Witch was of small force, and not designed for offensive operations she retired from the conflict. The pretext upon which the attack was made was a decree of the President of Paraguay of October, 1854, prohibiting foreign vessels of war from navigating the rivers of that State. As Paraguay, however, was owner of but one bank of the river of that name, the other belonging to Corientes, a State of the Argentine Confederation, the right of its Government to expect that such a decree would be obeyed cannot be acknowledged. But the Water Witch was not, properly speaking, a vessel of war. She was a small steamer, engaged in a scientific enterprise, intended for the advantage of commercial States generally. Under these circumstances, I am constrained to consider the attack upon her as unjustifiable, and as calling for satisfaction from the Paraguayan Government.

Citizens of the United States, also, who were established in business in Paraguay, have had their property seized and taken away from them, and have otherwise been treated by the authorities in an insulting and arbitrary manner, which requires redress.

A demand for these purposes will be made in a firm but conciliatory spirit. This will the more probably be granted, if the Executive shall have authority to use other means in the event of a refusal. This is accordingly recommended.

AFFAIRS OF KANSAS.

It is unnecessary to state in detail the alarming condition of the Territory of Kansas at the time of my inauguration. The opposing parties then stood in hostile array against each other, and any accident might have re-lighted the flames of civil war. Besides at this critical moment, Kansas was left without a Governor by the resignation of Governor Geary.

On the 19th of February previous, the Territorial Legislature had passed a law providing for the election of delegates, on the third Monday of June, to a convention to meet on the first Monday of September, for the purpose of framing a constitution preparatory to admission into the Union. This law was in the main fair and just; and it is to be regretted that all the qualified electors, had not registered themselves and voted under its provisions.

At the time of the election for delegates, an extensive organization existed in the Territory, whose avowed object it was, if need be, to put down the lawful government by force, and to establish a government of their own under the so called Topeka constitution.—The persons attached to this revolutionary organization abstained from taking any part in the election.

The act of the Territorial Legislature had omitted to provide for submitting to the people the constitution which might be framed by the convention; and in the excited state of public feeling throughout Kansas, an apprehension extensively prevailed that a design existed to force upon them a constitution in relation to slavery against their will. In this emergency it became my duty, as it was my unquestionable right, having in view the union of all good citizens in support of the territorial laws to express an opinion on the true construction of the provisions concerning slavery contained in the organic act of Congress of the 30th May, 1854. Congress declared it to be "the true intent and meaning of this act not to legislate slavery into any Territory or State, nor to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way." Under it Kansas, "when admitted as a State," was to "be received into the Union, with or without slavery, as their constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission."

Did Congress mean by this language that the delegates elected to frame a constitution should have authority finally to decide the question of slavery, or did they intend, by leaving it to the people, that the people of Kansas themselves should decide this question by a direct vote? On this subject, I confess, I had never entertained a serious doubt; and, therefore, in my instructions to Gov. Walker, of the 28th of March last, I merely said that when "a constitution shall be submitted to the people of the Territory they must be protected in the exercise of their right of voting for or against that instrument, and the fair expression of the popular will must not be interrupted by fraud or violence."

In expressing this opinion it was far from my intention to interfere with the decision of the people of Kansas either for or against slavery. From this I have always carefully abstained. Intrusted with the duty of taking "care that the laws be faithfully executed," my only desire was that the people of Kansas should furnish to Congress the evidence required by the organic act, whether for or against slavery; and in this manner smooth their passage into the Union. In emerging from the condition of territorial dependence into that of a sovereign State, it was their duty, in my opinion, to make known their will by the votes of the majority, on the direct question whether this important domestic institution should or should not continue to exist. Indeed, this was the only possible mode in which their will could be authentically ascertained.

The election of delegates to a convention must necessarily take place in separate districts. From this cause it may readily happen, as has often been the case, that a majority of the people of a State or Territory are on one side of a question, whilst a majority of the representatives from the several districts into which it is divided may be upon the other side. This arises from the fact that in some districts delegates may be elected by small majorities, whilst in others those of different sentiments may receive majorities sufficiently great not only to overcome the votes given for the former, but to leave a large majority of the whole people in direct opposition to a majority of the delegates.—Besides, our history proves that influences may be brought to bear on the representative sufficiently powerful to induce him to disregard the will of his constituents. The truth is, that no other authentic and satisfactory mode exists of ascertaining the will of a majority of the people of any State or Territory on an important and exciting question like that of slavery in Kansas, except by leaving it to a direct vote. How wise, then, was it for Congress to pass over all subordinate and intermediate agencies, and proceed directly to the source of all legitimate power under our institutions!

How vain would any other principle prove in practice! This may be illustrated by the case of Kansas. Should she be admitted into the Union, with a constitution either maintaining or abolishing slavery against the sentiment of the people, this could have no other effect than to continue and to exasperate the existing agitation during the brief period required to make the constitution conform to the irresistible will of the majority.

The friends and supporters of the Nebraska and Kansas act, when struggling on a recent occasion to sustain its wise provisions before the great tribunal of the American people, never differed about its true meaning on this subject. Everywhere throughout the Union they publicly pledged their faith and their honor, that they would cheerfully submit the question of slavery to the decision of the *bona fide* people of Kansas; without any restriction or qualification whatever. All were cordially united upon the great doctrine of popular sovereignty, which is the vital principle of our free institutions. Had it then been insinuated from any quarter that it would be a sufficient compliance with the requisitions of the organic law for the members of a convention, thereafter to be elected, to withhold the question of slavery from the people, and to substitute their own will for that of a legally-ascertained majority of all their constituents, this would have been instantly rejected. Everywhere they remained true to the resolution adopted on a celebrated occasion recognizing "the right of the people of all the Territories—including Kansas and Nebraska—acting through the legally and fairly expressed will of a majority of actual residents, and whenever the number of their inhabitants justifies it, to form a constitution, with or without slavery, and be admitted into the Union upon terms of perfect equality with the other States."

The convention to frame a constitution for Kansas met on the first Monday of September last. They were called together by virtue of an act of the Territorial Legislature, whose lawful existence had been recognized by Congress in different forms and by different enactments. A large proportion of the citizens of Kansas did not think proper to register their names and to vote at the election for delegates; but an opportunity to do this having having been fairly afforded, their refusal to avail themselves of their right could in no manner affect the legality of the convention.

This convention proceeded to frame a constitution for Kansas, and finally adjourned on the 7th day of November. But little difficulty occurred in the convention except on the subject of slavery. The truth is, that the general provisions of our recent State constitutions are so similar—and I may add, so excellent—that the difference between them is not essential. Under the earlier practice of the Government, no constitution framed by the convention of a Territory, preparatory to its admission into the Union as a State, had been submitted to the people.—I trust, however, the example set by the last Congress, requiring that the constitution of Minnesota "should be subject to the approval and ratification of the people of the proposed State," may be followed on future "occasions." I took it for granted that the convention of Kansas would act in accordance with this example, founded, as it is, on correct principles; and hence my instructions to Governor Walker in favor of submitting the constitution to the people, were expressed in general and unqualified terms.

In the Kansas Nebraska act, however, this requirement, as applicable to the whole constitution, had not been inserted, and the convention were not bound in its terms to submit any other portion of the instrument to an election, except that which relates to the "domestic institution" of slavery. This will be rendered clear by a simple reference to its language. It was "not to legislate slavery into any Territory or State, nor to exclude it therefrom, but to leave the people thereof perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way." According to the plain construction of the sentence the words "domestic institutions" have a direct, as they have an appropriate, reference to slavery. "Domestic institutions" are limited to the family. The relation between master and slave and a few others are "domestic institutions," and are entirely distinct from institutions of a political character. Besides, there was no question then before Congress, nor indeed has there since been any serious question before the people of Kansas or the country, except that which relates to the "domestic institution" of slavery.

The convention after an angry and excited debate, finally determined, by a majority of only two to submit the question of slavery to the people, though, at the last, forty three of the fifty delegates present affixed their signatures to the constitution.

A large majority of the convention were in favor of establishing slavery in Kansas.—They accordingly inserted an article in the constitution for this purpose, similar in form to those which had been adopted by other territorial conventions. In the schedule, however, providing for the transition from a territorial to a State government, the question has been fairly and explicitly referred to the people, whether they will have a constitution "with or without slavery." It declares that, before the constitution adopted by the convention "shall be sent to Congress for admission into the Union as a State," an election shall be held to decide this question, at which all the white male inhabitants of the Territory above the age of twenty-one are entitled to vote. They are to vote by ballot; and "the ballots cast by said election shall be indorsed "constitution with slavery," and "constitution with no slavery." If there be a majority in favor of a "constitution with slavery," then it is to be transmitted to Congress by the president of the convention in its original form. If, on the contrary, there shall be a majority in favor of a "constitution with no slavery," "then the article providing for slavery shall be stricken from the constitution by the president of this convention;" and it is expressly declared that "no slavery shall exist in the State of Kansas, except that the right of property in slaves now in the Territory shall in no manner be interfered with," and in that event it is made his duty to have the constitution thus ratified, transmitted to the Congress of the United States for the admission of the State into the Union.

At this election every citizen will have an opportunity of expressing his opinion by his vote "whether Kansas shall be received into the Union with or without slavery," and thus this exciting question may be peacefully settled in the very mode required by the organic law. The election will be held under legitimate authority; and if any portion of the inhabitants shall refuse to vote, a fair opportunity to do so having been presented, this will be their own voluntary act and they alone will be responsible for the consequences.

Whether Kansas shall be a free or a slave State must eventually, under some authority, be decided by an election; and the question can never be more clearly or distinctly presented to the people than it is at the present moment. Should this opportunity be rejected, she may be involved for years in domestic discord, and possibly in civil war before she can again make up the issue now so fortunately tendered, and again reach the point she has already attained.

Kansas has for some years occupied too much of the public attention. It is high time this should be directed to far more important objects. When once admitted into the Union, whether with or without slavery, the excitement beyond her own limits will speedily pass away and she will for the first time be left, as she ought to have been long since, to manage her own affairs in her own way. If her constitution on the subject of slavery, or on any other subject, be displeasing to a majority of the people, no human power can prevent them from changing it within a brief period. Under these circumstances it may well be questioned whether the peace and quiet of the whole country are not of greater importance than the mere temporary triumph of either of the political parties in Kansas.

Should the constitution without slavery be adopted by the votes of the majority, the rights of property in slaves now in the Territory are reserved. The number of these is very small; but if it were greater the provisions would be equally just and reasonable.—These slaves were brought into the Territory under the Constitution of the United States, and are now the property of their masters—This point has at length been finally decided by the highest judicial tribunal of the country—and this upon the plain principle that when a confederacy of sovereign States acquire a new territory at their joint expense, both equality and justice demand that the citizens of one and all of them shall have a right to take into it whatsoever is recognized as property by the common constitution.—To have summarily confiscated the property in slaves already in the Territory, would have been an act of gross injustice, and contrary to the practice of the older States of the Union which have abolished slavery.

THE MORMON QUESTION.

A territorial government was established for Utah by act of Congress, approved the 9th September, 1850, and the Constitution and laws of the United States were thereby extended over it "so far as the same or any provisions thereof may be applicable." This act provided for the appointment by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, of a Governor, who was to be *ex officio* superintendent of Indian affairs, a secretary, three judges of the supreme court, a marshal, and a district attorney. Subsequent acts provided for the appointment of the officers necessary to extend our land and our Indian system over the Territory.—Brigham Young was appointed the first Governor on the 20th September, 1850, and has held the office ever since. Whilst Governor Young has been both Governor and superintendent of Indian affairs throughout this period, he has been at the same time the head of the church called the Latter Day Saints, and professes to govern its members and dispose of their property by direct inspiration and authority from the Almighty. His power has been, therefore, absolute over both Church and State.

The people of Utah, almost exclusively, belong to this church; and believing with a fanatical spirit that he is governor of the Territory by divine appointment, they obey his commands as if these were direct revelations from heaven. If, therefore, he chooses that the government shall come into collision with the government of the United States, the members of the Mormon church will yield implicit obedience to his will. Unfortunately, existing facts leave but little doubt that such is his determination. Without entering upon a minute history of occurrences, it is sufficient to say that all the officers of the United States, judicial and executive, with the single exception of two Indian agents, have found it necessary for their own personal safety to withdraw from the Territory, and there no longer remains any government in Utah but the despotism of Brigham Young. This being the condition of affairs in the Territory, I could not mistake the path of duty. As Chief Executive Magistrate, I was bound to restore the supremacy of the Constitution and its laws within its limits. In order to effect this purpose I appointed a new Governor and other federal officers for Utah, and sent with them a military force for their protection, and to aid as a *posse comitatus*, in case of need, in the execution of the laws.

With the religious opinions of the Mormons, so long as they remained mere opinions, however deplorable in themselves or revolting to the moral and religious sentiments of all Christendom, I had no right to interfere. Actions alone, when in violation of the Constitution and laws of the United States, become the legitimate subjects for the jurisdiction of the civil magistrate. My instructions to Governor Cummings have therefore been framed in strict accordance with these principles. At their date a hope was indulged that no necessity might exist for employing the military in restoring and maintaining the authority of the law, but this hope has now vanished. Governor Young has, by proclamation, declared his determination to maintain his power by force, and has already committed acts of hostility against the United States. Unless he should retrace his steps, the Territory of Utah will be in a state of open rebellion. He has committed these acts of hostility, notwithstanding Major Van Vilet, an officer of the army, sent to Utah by the commanding general to purchase provisions for the troops, had given him the strongest assurances of the peaceful intentions of the Government, and that the troops would only be employed as a *posse comitatus* when called on by the civil authority to aid in the execution of the laws.

There is reason to believe that Governor Young has long contemplated this result.—He knows that the continuance of his despotic power depends upon the exclusion of all settlers from the Territory except those who will acknowledge his divine mission and implicitly obey his will: and that an enlightened public opinion there would soon prostrate institutions at war with the laws both of God and man. He has, therefore, for several years, in order to maintain his independence, been industriously employed in collecting and fabricating arms and munitions of war, and in disciplining the Mormons for military service.—As superintendent of Indian affairs he has had an opportunity of temporing with the Indian tribes, and exciting their hostile feelings against the United States. This, according to our information, he has accomplished in regard to some of these tribes, while others have remained true to their allegiance, and have communicated his intrigues to our Indian agents. He has laid in a store of provisions for three years, which, in case of necessity, as he informed Major Van Vilet, he will conceal, "and then take to the mountains, and bid defiance to all the powers of the Government."

A great part of all this may be idle boasting; but yet no wise Government will lightly estimate the efforts which may be inspired by such frenzied fanaticism as exists among the Mormons in Utah. This is the first rebellion which has existed in our Territories; and humanity itself requires that we should put it down in such a manner that it shall be the last. To trifle with it would be to encourage it and to render it formidable. We ought to go there with such an imposing force as to convince these deluded people that resistance would be vain, and thus spare the effusion of blood. We can in this manner best convince them that we are their friends, not their enemies. In order to accomplish this object it will be necessary, according to the estimate of the War Department, to raise four additional regiments; and this I earnestly recommend to Congress. At the present moment of depression in the revenues of the country I am sorry to be obliged to recommend such a measure; but I feel confident of the support of Congress, cost what it may, in suppressing the insurrection, and in restoring and maintaining the sovereignty of the Constitution and laws over the Territory of Utah.

THE TERRITORY OF ARIZONA.

I recommend to Congress the establishment of a territorial government over Arizona, incorporating with it such portions of New Mexico as they may deem expedient. I need scarcely adduce arguments in support of this recommendation. We are bound to protect the lives and the property of our citizens inhabiting Arizona, and these are now without any efficient protection. Their present number is already considerable, and is rapidly increasing, notwithstanding the disadvantages under which they labor. Besides, the proposed Territory is believed to be rich in mineral and agricultural resources, especially in silver and copper. The mails of the United States to California are now carried over it throughout its whole extent, and this route is known to be the nearest, and believed to be the best to the Pacific.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.

Long experience has deeply convinced me that a strict construction of the powers granted to Congress is the only true, as well as the only safe, theory of the constitution. Whilst this principle shall guide my public conduct, I consider it clear that under the war making power Congress may appropriate money for the construction of a military road through the Territories of the United States, when this is absolutely necessary for the defence of any of the States against foreign invasion.—The constitution has conferred upon Congress, power "to declare war," "to raise and support armies," to provide and maintain a navy, and to call forth the militia to "repel invasions." These high sovereign powers necessarily involve important and responsible public duties, and among them there is none so sacred and so imperative as that of preserving our soil from the invasion of a foreign enemy. The Constitution has therefore, left nothing on this point to construction, but expressly requires that "the United States shall protect each of them [the States] against invasion." Now, if a military road over our own Territories be indispensably necessary to enable us to meet and repel the invader, it follows as a necessary consequence not only that we possess the power, but it is our imperative duty to construct such a road. It would be an absurdity to invest a Government with the unlimited power to make and conduct war, and at the same time deny to it the only means of reaching and defeating the enemy at the frontier. Without such a road it is quite evident we cannot "protect" California and our Pacific possessions "again invasion." We cannot by any other means transport men and munitions of war from the Atlantic States in sufficient time successfully to defend these remote and distant portions of the republic.

Experience has proved that the routes across the Isthmus of Central America are at best but a very uncertain and unreliable mode of communication. But even if this were not the case, they would at once be closed against us in the event of war with a naval power so much stronger than our own as to enable it to blockade the ports at either end of these routes. After all, therefore, we can only rely upon a military road through our own territories; and ever since the origin of the government Congress has been in the practice of appropriating money from the public treasury for the construction of such roads.

The difficulties and the expense of constructing a military railroad to connect our Atlantic and Pacific States have been greatly exaggerated. The distance on the Arizona route near the 32d parallel of North latitude, between the Western boundary of Texas on the Rio Grande and the Eastern boundary of California on the Colorado from the best explorations now within our knowledge, does not exceed four hundred and seventy miles, and the face of the country is, in the main, favorable. For obvious reasons the government ought not to undertake the work itself by means of its own agents. This ought to be committed to other agencies, which Congress might assist either by grants of land or money, or by both, upon such terms and conditions as they may deem most beneficial for the country.—Provision might thus be made not only for the safe, rapid, and economical transportation of troops and munitions of war, but also of the public mails. The commercial interests of the whole country, both East and West, would be greatly promoted by such a road; and, above all, it would be a powerful additional bond of union. And although advantages of this kind, whether postal, commercial, or political, cannot confer constitutional power, yet they may furnish auxiliary arguments in favor of expediting a work which in my judgment, is clearly embraced within the war making power.

For these reasons I commend to the friendly consideration of Congress the subject of the Pacific railroad, without finally committing myself to any particular route.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury will furnish a detailed statement of the condition of the public finances and of the respective branches of the public services devolved upon that department of the government.—By this report it appears that the amount of revenue received from all sources into the treasury during the fiscal year ending the 30th June, 1857, sixty eight million six hundred and thirty one thousand five hundred and thirteen dollars and sixty-seven cents, ($68,631,513 66,) which amount, with the balance of nineteen million nine hundred and one thousand three hundred and twenty five dollars and forty five cents, ($19,901,325 45.) remaining in the treasury at the commencement of the year, made an aggregate for the service of the year of eighty eight million five hundred and thirty two thousand eight hundred and thirty nine dollars and twelve cents, ($88,532 839 12)

The public expenditures for the fiscal year ending 30th June, 1857, amounted to seventy million eight hundred and twenty two thousand seven hundred and twenty four dollars and eighty five cents, ($70,822,724 85.) of which five million nine hundred and forty three thousand eight hundred and ninety six dollars and ninety one cents ($5,943,896 91.) were applied to the redemption of the public debt, including interest and premium, leaving in the treasury at the commencement of the present fiscal year, on the 1st July, 1857, seventeen million seven hundred and ten thousand one hundred and fourteen dollars and twenty seven cents, ($17,710,114 27)

The receipts into the treasury for the first quarter of the present fiscal year, commencing 1st July, 1857, were twenty million nine hundred and twenty nine thousand eight hundred and nineteen dollars and eighty one cents, ($20,929,819 81) and the estimated receipts of the remaining three quarters to the 30th June, 1858, are thirty six million seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars, ($36,750,000,) making with the balance before stated an aggregate of seventy five million three hundred and eighty nine thousand nine hundred and thirty four dollars and eighty cents, ($75,389,934 08,) for the service of the present fiscal year.

The actual expenditures during the first quarter of the present fiscal year were twenty three million seven hundred and fourteen thousand five hundred and twenty eight dollars and thirty seven cents, ($23,714,528 37,) of which three million eight hundred and ninety five thousand two hundred and thirty two dollars and thirty nine cents, ($3,895,232 39) were applied to the redemption of the pubic debt, including interest and premium. The probable expenditures of the remaining three quarters, to 30th June, 1858, are fifty one million two hundred and forty eight thousand five hundred and thirty dollars and four cents, (51,248,530 04,) including interest on the public debt, making an aggregate of seventy four million nine hundred and sixty three thousand fifty eight dollars and forty one cents, ($74,963,058 41,) leaving an estimated balance in the treasury at the close of the present fiscal year of four hundred and twenty six thousand eight hundred and seventy five dollars and sixty seven cents, ($426,875 67)

The amount of the public debt at the commencement of the present fiscal year was twenty nine million sixty thousand three hundred and eighty six dollars and ninety cents, ($29,060,386 90)

The amount redeemed since the 1st of July was three million eight hundred and ninety five thousand two hundred and thirty two dollars and thirty nine cents, ($3,895,232 39)—leaving a balance unredeemed at this time of twenty five million one hundred and sixty five thousand one hundred and fifty four dollars and fifty one cents, ($25,165,154. 51.)

The amount of estimated expenditures for the remaining three quarters of the present fiscal year will, in all probability, be increased from the causes set forth in the report of the Secretary. His suggestion, therefore, that authority should be given to supply any temporary dificiency by the issue of a limited amount of treasury notes, is approved, and I accordingly recommend the passage of such a law.

As stated in the report of the Secretary, the tariff of March 3, 1857, has been in operation for so short a period of time, and under circumstances so unfavorable to a just development of its results as a revenue measure, that I should regard it as inexpedient, at least for the present, to undertake its revision.

WAR AND NAVY DEPARTMENTS.

I transmit herewith the reports made to me by the Secretaries of War and of the Navy, of the Interior and of the Postmaster General. They all contain valuable and important information and suggestions which I commend to the favorable consideration of Congress.

I have already recommended the raising of four additional regiments, and the report of the Secretary of War presents strong reasons proving this increase of the army, under existing circumstances, to be indispensable.

I would call the special attention of Congress to the recommendation of the Secretary of the Navy in favor of the construction of ten small war steamers of light draught. For some years the government has been obliged on many occasions to hire such steamers from individuals to supply its pressing wants. At the present moment we have no armed vessels in the navy which can penetrate the rivers of China. We have but few which can enter any of the harbors south of Norfolk, although many millions of foreign and domestic commerce annually pass in and out of these harbors. Some of our most valuable interests and most vulnerable points are thus left exposed. This class of vessels of light draught, great speed, and heavy guns would be formidable in coast defence. The cost of their construction will not be great, and they will require but a comparatively small expenditure to keep them in commission. In time of peace they will prove as effective as much larger vessels, and often more useful. One of them should be at every station where we maintain a squadron, and three or four should be constantly employed on our Atlantic and Pacific coasts. Economy, utility, and efficiency combine to recommend them as almost indispensable. Ten of these small vessels would be of incalculable advantage to the naval service, and the whole cost of their construction would not exceed two million three hundred thousand dollars, or $230,000 each.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior is wothy of grave consideration. It treats of the numerous, important, and diversified branches of domestic administration instrusted to him by law. Among these the most prominent are the public lands and our relations with the Indians.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

Our system for the disposal of the public lands, originating with the fathers of the republic, has been improved as experience pointed the way, and gradually adapted to the growth and settlement of our western States and Territories. It has worked well in practice. Already thirteen States and seven Territories have been carved out of these lands, and still more than a thousand millions of acres remain unsold. What a boundless prospect this presents to our country of future prosperity and power!

We have heretofore disposed of 363,862,464 acres of the public lands.

Whilst the public lands as a source of revenue are of great importance, their importance is far greater as furnishing homes for a hardy and independent race of honest and industrious citizens, who desire to subdue and cultivate the soil. They ought to be administered mainly with a view of promoting this wise and benevolent policy. In appropriating them for any other purpose we ought to use even greater economy than if they had been converted into money and the proceeds were already in the public treasury. To squander away this richest and noblest inheritance which any people have ever enjoyed upon objects of doubtful constitutionality or expediency, would be to violate one of the most important trusts ever committed to any people. Whilst I do not deny to Congress the power, when acting *bona fide* as a proprietor, to give away portions of them for the purpose of increasing the value of the remainder, yet, considering the great temptation to abuse the power, we cannot be too cautious in its exercise.

Actual settlers under existing laws are protected against other purchasers at the public sales, in their right of preemption, to the extent of a quarter-section, or 160 acres of land. The remainder may then be disposed of at public or entered at private sale in unlimited quantities.

Speculation has of late years prevailed to a great extent in the public lands. The consequence has been that large portions of them have become the property of individuals and companies, and thus the price is greatly enhanced to those who desire to purchase for actual settlement. In order to limit the area of speculation as much as possible, the extinction of the Indian title and the extension of the public surveys ought only to keep pace with the tide of emigration.

If Congress should hereafter grant alternate sections to States or companies, as they have done heretofore, I recommend that intermediate sections retained by the government should be subject to preemption by actual settlers.

It ought ever to be our cardinal policy to reserve the public lands as much as may be for actual settlers, and this at moderate prices. We shall thus not only best promote the prosperity of the new States and Territories, and the power of the Union, but shall secure homes to our posterity for many generations.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

The extension of our limits has brought within our Jurisdiction many additional and populous tribes of Indians, a large proportion of which are wild, untractable, and difficult to control. Predatory and warlike in their disposition and habits, it is impossible altogether to restrain them from committing aggressions on each other, as well as upon our frontier citizens and those emigrating to our distant States and Territories. Hence expensive military expeditions are frequently necessary to overawe and chastise the more lawless and hostile.

The present system of making them valuable presents to influence them to remain at peace has proved ineffectual. It is believed to be the better policy to colonize them in suitable localities, where they can receive the rudiments of education and be gradually induced to adopt habits of industry. So far as the experiment has been tried it has worked well in practice, and it will doubtless prove to be less expensive than the present system.

The whole number of Indians within our territorial limits is believed to be, from the best data in the Interior Department, about 325,000.

The tribes of Cherokees, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Creeks, settled in the territory set apart for them west of Arkansas, are rapidly advancing in education and in all the arts of civilization and self government; and we may indulge the agreeable anticipation that at no very distant day they will be incorporated into the Union as one of the sovereign States.

POST-OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

It will be seen from the report of the Postmaster General that the Post Office Department still continues to depend on the treasury, as it has been compelled to do for several years past, for an important portion of the means of sustaining and extending its operations. Their rapid growth and expansion are shown by a decennial statement of the number of post offices, and the length of post roads, commencing with the year 1827. In that year there were 7,000 post offices; in 1837, 11,177; in 1847, 15,146; and in 1857 the number 26,586. In this year 1,725 post offices have been established, and 704 discontinued, leaving a net increase of 1,021.—

ASHEVILLE NEWS:

The post masters of 368 offices are appointed by the President.

The length of post roads in 1827 was 105,336 miles; in 1837, 142,242 miles; in 1847, 153,818 miles; and in the year 1857 there are 242,601 miles of post road, including 22,530 miles of railroad, on which the mails ars transported.

The expenditures of the department for the fiscal year ending on the 30th June, 1856, as adjusted by the Auditor, amounted to $14,507,670. To defray these expenditures there was to the credit of the department on the 1st July, 1856, the sum of $78,599; the gross revnue of the year, including the annual allowances for the transportation of free mail matter, produced $8,053,951; and the remainder was supplied by the appropriation from the treasury of $2 250,000, granted by the act of Congress approved August 18, 1854, and by the appropriation of $666,883 made by the act of March 3, 1857, leaving 242 863 to be carried to the credit of the Department in the accounts of the current year. I recommend to your consideration the report of the department in relation to the establishment of the over land mail route from the Mississippi river to San Francisco, California. The route was selected with my full concurrence, as the one, in my judgment, best calculated to attain the important objects contemplated by Congress.

RETRENCHMENT.

The late disastrous monetary revulsion may have one good effect should it cause both the government and the people to return to the practice of a wise and judicious economy, both in public and private expenditures.

An overflowing treasury has led to habits of prodigality and extravagance in our legislation. It has induced Congress to make large appropriations to objects for which they never would have provided, had it been necessary to raise the amount of revenue required to meet them by increased taxation or by loans. We are now compelled to pause in our career, and to scrutinize our expenditures with the utmost vilgence; and in performing this duty, I pledge my co-operation to the extent of my constitutional competency.

It ought to be observed at the same time that true public economy dose not consist in withholding the means necessary to accomplish important national objects, intrusted to us by the Constitution, and especially such as may be necessary for the common defence.—*In the present* crisis of the country it is our duty to confine our appropriations to objects of this character, unless in cases where justice to individuals may demand a different course. In all cases care ought to be taken that the money granted by Congress shall be faithfully and economically applied.

PUBLIC BUSINESS—THE VETO.

Under the Federal Constitution, "every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall, before it becomes a law" be approved and signed by the President; and if not approved, "he shall return it with his objections to that house in which it originated." In order to perform this high and responsible duty, sufficient time must be allowed to the President to read and examine every bill presented to him for approval. Unless this be afforded, the Constitution becomes a dead letter in this particular; and even worse, it becomes a means of deception. Our constituents, seeing the Presidents approval and signature attached to each act of Congress, are induced to believe that he has actually performed this duty, when, in truth, nothing is, in many cases, more unfounded.

From the practice of Congress, such an examination of each bill as the Constitution requires, has been rendered impossible. The most important business of each session is generally crowded into its last hours, and the alternative presented to the President is either to violate a constitutional duty which he owes to the people, and approve bills which, for want of time, it is impossible he should have examined, or, by his refusal to do this, subject the country and individuals, to great loss and inconvenience.

Besides, a practice has grown up of late years to legislate on appropriation bills, at the late hours of the session, on new and important subjects. This practice constrains the President either to suffer measures to become laws which he dose not approve, or to incur the risk of stopping the wheels of the government by vetoing an appropriation bill. Formerly, such bills were confined to specific appppropriations for carrying into effect existing laws and the well established policy of the country, and little time was then required by the President for examination.

For my own part I have deliberately determined that I shall approve no bill which I have not examined, and it will be a case of extreme and most urgent necessity which shall ever induce me to depart from this rule. I therefore respectfully, but earnestly, recommend that the two houses would allow the President at least two days previous to the adjournment of each session within which no new bill shall be presented to him for approval. Under the existing joint rule one day is allowed; but this rule has been hitherto so constantly suspended in practice, that important bills continue to be presented to him up to the very last moments of the session. In a large majority of cases no great public inconvenience can arise from the want of time to examine their provisions, because the Constitution has declared that if a bill be presented to the President within the last ten days of the session he is not required to return it, either with an approval or with a vote, "in which case it shall not be a law." It may then lie over, and be taken up and passed at the next session. Great inconvenience would only be experienced in regard to appropriation bills; but fortunately, under the late excellent law allowing a salary, instead of a per diem, to members of Congress, the expense and inconvenience of a called session will be greatly reduced.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

I cannot conclue without commending to your favorable consideration the interests of the people of this District. Without a representative on the floor of Congress they have for this very reason peculiar claims upon our just regard. To this I know, from my long acquaintance with them, they are eminently entitled.

JAMES BUCHANAN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8, 1857.

☞ A call for an instalment of 40 per cent on subscribed Stock, to the W. N. C. R. R., has beenn made by the Board of Directors, to be paid on the 8th January next.

THE NEWS.

THOS. W. ATKIN, Editor.

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

Thursday, Dec. 24, 1857.

☞ The Editor is still an invalid, but hopes to be able to discharge his duties as usual at an early day.

☞ In obedience to custom we shall publish no paper next week; Christmas comes but once a year, and the Printers claim a little respite from their arduous toils.

☞ We publish President Buchanan's Mesage to day to the exclusion of every thing else. It will be found an interesting document, worthy the Chief Magistrate of a great Nation.

☞ Several communications, notices, advertisements, &c. &c., crowded out. All shall be right next time.

☞ Congress is in session, as our readers know, and they are having pretty hot times over Kansas affairs. Walker, the Governor, has resigned. Senator Douglas has arrayed himself against the policy of the President, and against the bulk of the Southern members. Great excitement prevails, and the end is not yet.

☞ Walter F. Leak, has announced himself as an independent *Distribution* Democratic candidate for Governor of North Carolina, next summer!! Walter is in a hurry. He will have learned enough to repent *after* the election, and see what an ass he has made of himself.

The Mormon War.

The War Department is said to be crowded with applicates from every section of the country for commissions in the army for Utah. A number of young men at Harrisburg, Pa, are endeavoring to raise a company and tender its services to fight "Brother Brigham."

☞ The Legislature of South Carolina has refused to legalize the late suspensions of the Banks in that State.

DIED

In this place, on Sunday night last, Mr JOHN P. SMITH, aged about 34 years.

State of North Carolina.

McDOWELL COUNTY.

In Equity—Fall Term, 1757

John S. Brown, Admr. of Wm. Gillaspie & Judith Gillaspie, deceased
VS.
Wm. Gillaspie, Henry T. Gillaspie and others

In this case, it appearing to the satisfaction of the court that the Defendants Wm. Gillaspie, Henry T Gillaspie and Polly or Mary Watts; are non residents of the State. it is ordered that publication be made in the Asheville News, a paper published in Asheville N. C., for the space of six weeks notifying said non-resident Defendants to be and appear at the next term of this court to be held for the county of McDowell at the court house in Marion on the fifth Monday after the fourth Monday in March next and plead answer or demur to complainants bill or judgment *pro confesso*, will be entered and heard exparte as to them.

Witness C L S. Corpening Clerk and Master in Equity for the county of McDowell at office in Marion the 18th day December, 1857

C L S. CORPENING C & M E

Dec. 21 1857. 6w Printer's fee $6

$300 REWARD.

A PROCLAMATION.

BY

His Excellency THOMAS BRAGG, Governor of the State of North Carolina.

WHEREAS, it has been represented to me that John C. Hooper, charged with the murder of Daniel Parker, in the County of Jackson, and Elsbury Johnson convicted of rape, committed in the County of Henderson, escaped from the Jail of Buncombe County, on the night of the 30th of November last, and have fled beyond the limits of this State.

Now to the end that the said John C. Hooper and Elsbury Johnson, may be arrested and brought to justice, I do hereby issue this my Proclamation offering a reward of THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS for their apprehension and delivery to the Sheriff of Buncombe County, or one hundred and fifty Dollars for either of them.

DESCRIPTION.

John C. Hooper is about five feet eight inches high, about twenty one or twenty two years old, dark florid complexion, black hair, dark eyes, slow spoken, weighs about 160 pounds, thin black whiskers, and compactly built, had on when he escaped a blue janes frock coat, a little worn, light mixed woolen pantaloons, nearly new, black silk neck kerchief, black slouched hat and brogan shoes; had in his possession, also, a snuff colored janes frock coat and dark double breasted vest.

Elsbury Johnson, is about 24 or 25 years old, five feet 10 inches high, weighs about 160 pounds, slender made, fair hair and complexion, blue eyes, very little beard, wore when he escaped, a brown wollen frock coat, nearly new, striped vest, dark cotton pants, sharp toed country made shoes and brown wool hat.

L S Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina, at the city of Raleigh, this the 8th day of Dec., A. D., 1857.

THOMAS BRAGG, GOVERNOR.

PULASKI COOPER, *Private Sec'y.*

December 17, 1857.

100 gallons pure Linseed Oil. For sale at ASTON'S.

BLUE STONE.

500 pounds Blue Stone, just received and for sale at ASTON'S.

NOTICE.

THAT on Thursday 31st of this inst. we will proceed to sell at the residence of Robert Ingram, deceased the following property, to the highest bidder on a twelve months credit

TEN LIKELY NEGROES,

consisting of men, women and children One valuable

TRACT OF LAND

containg 350 acres, more or less, with a good Orchard and a fine situation well watte'ed lying in Buncombe County, on the north prong of Swannanoa, 13 miles from Asheville, and within 8 or 10 miles of the Black Mountain House.—4 head of

Horses and one Wagon,

together with Cattle, Hogs, Corn Wheat Rye, Oats and Provinder, farming tools household and kitchen furniture. Sale to continue from day to day until all is sold. Purchasers will be required to give bond and approved security, this 9th Dec. 1857.

Attendance by WM. STEPP.
L INGRAM.

N. B. All persons having claims, and heirs against this estate, are required to present them in the time prescribed by law, otherwise this notice will be pled in bar of their recovery. Also all persons indebted to said estate are required to make settlement.

December 17, 1857.

State of North Carolina,

Buncombe County.

John Sumner
VS.
C. N. Candler.

ORIGINAL ATTACHMENT.

It appearing that the Defendant C N. Candler is a non-resident of this State. it is ordered that publication be made according to law, notifying said Defendant personally to be and appear at the next Court of Pleas and Quarter sessions to be held for the county of Buncombe at the Court House in Asheville, on the 2d Monday after the 4th Monday in December next to answer the complaint of the Plaintiff or judgment by default will be rendered against him according to the pleadings.

Witness Jas. T. Weaver, Clerk of our said Court at Office, the 2d Monday after the 4th Monday in September, A. D., 1857.

JAS. T. WEAVER.
Clerk Co. Co.

December 17, 1857.

TO CONTRACTORS.

SEALED proposals will be received by the undersigned until Wednesday of Yancey County Court (about 25th January next) for building a Jail at Burnsville. The building to be of brick 44 feet by 22 two stories high with a passage 8 feet wide above and below, with iron cage in one upper room

For specifications, address Isaac M. Broyles, at Burnsville.

The old Jail and lot on which it stands will be sold on the Tuesday of January Court.

ISAAC M. BROYLES. }
J. G. PARROTT, } *Com's.*
D. H. DILLINGER. }

Burnsville, Dec. 17 1857. td.

NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to W. D. Rankin, & Co., are requested to make payment against January Court and save cost. We are compelled to have money and those who do not pay, or make satisfactory arrangements will find their claims in the hands of an officer after that time.

Asheville Dec 17 1857.

Call and Settle.

ALL persons indebted to the undersigned are requested to call and settle by the 1st of January, or as soon after as convenient.—Annual settlements we must and will have with all our customers.

GAINS DEAVER & Co.

Asheville, Dec. 17 1857.

FRUIT TREES.

I will offer at the next Court in Henderson, Buncombe, McDowell and Burke a lot of choice varieties of APPLE TREES, at the reduced price of 12 1 2 cents per tree.

B. HAMILTON.

December 17 1857.

$100 REWARD!

BROKE JAIL!!

THE above reward will be paid for the arrest of ELISBERRY JOHNSON and JOHN C. HOOPER, who made their escape from the Jail of Buncombe county on Monday night last.

JOHNSON, who is under sentence of death, is about 25 years of age, light hair, fair complexion, rather a mean countenance, about 5 feet 11 inches high, and weighs probably from 150 to 160 pounds.

JOHN HOOPER was brought here from Jackson county, charged with murder, and is about 5 feet 10 inches high, 25 years old, weighs probably 150 or 160 pounds, light or sandy hair and beard.

One Hundred Dollars will be paid for their arrest and confinement in any Jail so that they can be brought back, or Fifty Dollars for either of them.

G. W. HAMPTON,
Sheriff of Buncombe County.

Asheville, Dec. 3, 1857.

Molasses.

800 Gallons Molasses as good if not the best, ever offered for sale in this country.

SMITH BAIRD & CO

May 1, 1856. tf

M. L. DOYLE,

BAKER & CONFECTIONER,

Main Street, opposite Eagle Hotel,

Asheville, N. C.

Keeps constantly on hand Bread of superior quality; Cake of every description; Candies in endless variety and abundance; Cheese; Nuts; Raisins; and in a word, everything calculated to refresh and strengthen the physical man and tranquilize and sooth the mind. Families and Parties supplied at short notice, and on reasonable terms, &c., &c., &c.

March 5 1857.

Children's, Boys and Youth's READY-MADE CLOTHING,

Just received by SMITH & CHAPMAN.

LADIES

WISHING to purchase fine DRESS GOODS for spring and summer wear, are advised to call on

RANKIN & CHAPMAN.

April 3. tf

ALL MATERIALS

For making Roraback's Soap for sale in any quantities, at ASTON'S.

Look Out for the Runaways!!

ABOLITIONISM!!!

$150 REWARD.

RUNAWAY from the subscriber on Saturday night the 3d instant, near Cooper's Furnace, Cass co., Four negroes. Alfred, a boy, aged about 25 years.

dark complexion large whiskers, about 5 feet 10 inches high. Gabriel, a boy, about 19 years old, dark complexion 5 feet 7 inches high. Richard, aged about 20 years dark complexion, wears long hair platted, stout built, was wearing a blue pea jacket coat and white woolen pantaloons. Noah aged about 18 years, dark complexion, has many bumps on his face, wears long hair platted, about 5 feet 6 inches high. These negroes were purchased in Baltimore by B. M. & W. S. Campbell.

The above reward will be paid for the delivery to me of said four negroes, or lodged in any state jail where I can get them, or $25 for either one of them.

Address me at Etowah P. O., Cass county, Ga.

JOHN JOLLY.

November 12. 1857.—4w

GUDGER'S (Late Smith's) HOTEL

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

THE PROPRIETOR of this long established and widely known House takes pleasure in announcing to the public that it has recently been entirely refitted, and all its appointments re-arranged upon the most convenient and comfortable plan.

He desires to call the attention of the Southern people, who may desire a pleasant and comfortable

Summer Home,

to the advantages to be enjoyed here. He has good rooms, neatly furnished, polite and attentive servants, and his table shall be supplied with every comfort and luxury which the country affords. His personal attention will be devoted exclusively to the comfort of his guests.

No more pleasant summer resort than Asheville can be found any where. With a moral, intelligent and refined population, four churches, and a flourishing Female College, a pure and bracing atmosphere and water as bright and sparkling as ever gushed from the earth the invalid or the seeker of pleasure can pass his time agreeably and profitably.

He may mention that strong

Sulphur and Chalybeate Water

has within a few days been discovered within two or three minutes walk of the Hotel.

Thankful for the liberal patronage of last season he invites his friends and the public generally to call upon him, promising that neither money or labor shall be spared to render their sojourn pleasant and agreeable.

J. H. GUDGER, *Proprietor.*

Asheville, April 2 1857.

O. M. LEWIS'

Daguerrean and Ambrotype GALLERY,

On Main Street south of the Court House.

PICTURES of all sizes taken, from that of the finger ring to the *whole* size.

Instructions given in either Daguer or Ambrotyping on most reasonable terms. Nov 20

ARTHUR'S

Self-Sealing Fruit Cans,

For Sale by

E. J. ASTON

TO OUR CUSTOMERS,

WHO have patronized us so very liberally, we hereby tender our sincere thanks and solicit for our successors that favor and patronage we have been the recipients of. The junior partners have been trained and brought up under our care; and we can confidently recommend them to our old friends and the public generally,

To those indebted to us we say, we must have money; and that without delay. We owe money, and to those indebted to us we must look for aid. W. D. RANKIN & CO.

April 9. 1857.

Valuable TOWN PROPERTY

For Sale.

THE subscriber offers his Property, located near the Female College for sale. The Lot contains 12 acres and has on it a Well of excellent water and a stream running through it.

The house is large and commodious, well arranged and comfortable, with all necessary out buildings.

This property is desirable, and can be had at a great bargain if applied for at an early day.

For further information call on the Editor of this paper. G. W. SHACKLEFORD.

Asheville. November 12. 1857.

SUMMEY, McDOWELL & CO.

ARE now receiving their Stock of Spring and Summer

GOODS FOR 1857.

Which, for variety, will surpass any stock ever offered in this market. Having been selected with great care in the cities of Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York, by one of the firm, Mr. D. F Summey, who is acknowledged to be a man of the nicest taste and best judgment in this market in selecting goods; they would invite a discriminating public to inspect their stock, feeling assured that they will be able to demonstrate the fact that they have the best selected and cheapest stock in market. They don't pretend to sell for pay down alone, but the man who wants to deal in that way can be accommodated with goods as low as any "pay down" house can sell; and should he want a few more goods than his money will buy, they will be glad to let him have them, and wait until January, 1858. Good, prompt customers will do well to give them a call.

The usual articles of Produce taken in exchange for goods.

SUMMEY, McDOWELL & CO.

Asheville, March 19, '57.

GAINES, DEAVER & CO.

ARE receiving an additional stock of Ready Made

Clothing, Hats, Bonnets, Jewelry, Watches, &c., &c.,

making their stock very complete. Call and examine it. July 24, 1857.

BUY your Books and Stationery at ASTON'S.

NEW AND ELEGANT GOODS!

J. M. BLAIR & CO.

No. 1, Main Street, Opposite Eagle Hotel,

Have Opened further Invices of their Spring Importations.

NEW STYLE PRINTS, of English, French and American manufacture elegant, brilliant; French Cambrics of different pattern and color; Dress Silks, of various styles, qualities, and prices; Black Silks; New Embroideries—Collars from 12 1-2 cents to $6; French and Scotch Collars, Cambric, Swiss and Mainloop Flouncing & Bands; Mourning Collars; Mourning Berages, Organdies and Jaconets; Mantillas; Ladies beautiful dress Mantillas, black, white and colored, from $2 50, to $15;—Ribbons, Trimmings, Rusches; Silk Crape; Neapoliton and Straw Bonnets, trimmed and plain, from 75 cents to $12; Ladies Congress and Kid Gaiters; Walking Shoes; Misses Gaiters.

EVERY THING

THAT is calculated to please the senses and satisfy the fastidious tastes of the "fair" of this and the surrounding counties. As our stock has been selected with great care in a **SOUTHERN** market by one of the firm, who, although *perhaps* not the best buyer in this market, still, from his long experience in suiting the wants of the people of these parts, has the *presumption* to think our stock, in point of taste, quality, variety and quantity, will compare favorably with any and every stock in town.—But this point we are willing for our customers and the public to decide. So look round, ladies and gentlemen, and then give us a call, and we will convince you we are not "gassing," but in sober, serious earnest.

GROCERIES.

We would call attention to the fact that we have, and intend hereafter to keep constantly on hand, a superior quality of FAMILY GROCERIES. Rio and Java Coffee, Sugars, Salt, Syrup, Molasses, Fish, White Wine Vinegar, and every thing in this department.

4000 lbs. Sugar, 100 Sacks Coffee, 100 Sacks Salt, 800 gallons Molasses, just arriving

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Gentlemen's fine pump Boot, sewed and pegged; gents Oxford Ties, patent leather and calf skin, a very superior article; gents Congress Boot and patent leather Pump; calf skin Shoes, bound and unbound; Wax Brogans, a full assortment of that superior brand, "Dunham's," that we always keep. Boys wax brogans and calf skin shoes; boys boots; children's shoes, every quality, color and price.

READY MADE CLOTHING.

Pants, Coats and Vests, of any color, kind, quality or price, that you may desire; Cotton gauze under Shirts; Linen Shirts, collars standing or *a la* Byron; Stocks, satin and silk; fancy silk and cambric Neck Ties; black silk Scarf and Cravats; gents Hose, white, brown, mixed and fancy

HARDWARE. A superior stock of Cutlery, Hoes, Steel, As't Nails, "Griffin's" brand, Scythes, &c.

DRUGS, Medicines, Dye Stuffs, Paints, Oils, Glass, Putty, and every thing in this line.

OUR STOCK IS COMPLETE,

in every particular, and we can say to our customers, and the good people of all Carolina, that we are now prepared to supply their varied wants, in every instance. So, with the above introduction, we take the liberty of inviting you all, big and little, small and great, to come and see our GOODS; and if low prices "ALMOST cost and carriage," polite and attentive clerks, beautiful, durable and showy Goods, are any attraction, you will not be disappointed. Come along—we don't charge anything for showing. Bring your money—bring your produce—give us a trial before going elsewhere. We will do as well, perhaps a LITTLE BETTER, than any body else.

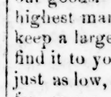
ATTENTION! LIMESTONE AND CANE CREEK!

We are now receiving, at our Store at Shufordsville, a complete and magnificent stock of **GOODS,** embracing every thing that you can want, which we agree to sell as low as they can be sold any where in Asheville. So give us a call, and you will find our Goods cheap, durable and fashionable, and our clerks attentive and polite, and willing to show you our goods. So come along, bring your money and your produce, and we will give you the highest market price for both. We would call to your attention the fact that we intend to keep a larger and more complete stock always on hand hereafter at this place. You will find it to your interest to trade here, as you have just as good a stock to select from, prices just as low, and so much nearer home. Remember us, and call, before you go further and fare worse.

J. M. BLAIR & CO.

March 26, 1857.

Blacksmithing.



THE subscriber begs leave to inform his friends and the public generally, that the Blacksmith business at the

New Brick Shop,

immediately south of his residence, will hereafter be conducted by himself. He has the very best workmen employed and is prepared to turn out every description of work at short notice and in the best style. Despatch and punctuality may be relied on at this establishment.

Particular attention is paid to

HORSE SHOEING,

and he challenges a comparison of his work in this department with any other establishment in the State.

Repairing of all kinds promptly attended to, at reasonable rates.

T. GOODLAKE.

Asheville, July 2, 1857.

FALL AND WINTER GOODS.

WE are now receiving our late extensive purchases of Ready Made

CLOTHING,

consisting of every grade of quality, and embracing the newest styles and latest fashions.

We would call particular attention to our stock of

Boots, Shoes, and Hats,

Broad Cloths, English and *French Cassimeres, 6-4 Cloths & Coatings, Vestings, Trimings of all kinds, Hosiery, Gloves, Handkerchiefs,*

And a variety of FANCY GOODS, usually called for in a

Gentleman's Furnishing Store.

We take this opportunity to return thanks to our numerous friends and customers for past favors, and to inform them that in order to do justice to this branch of business we have engaged the services of Maj Dunlap, by whose well known taste and judgment, together with the personal attention of the principals, we hope to secure a continuance of their liberal patronage.

SMITH & CHAPMAN.

Sept. 10, 1857.

LIGHT READING.

All the popular Novels of the day constantly on hand at ASTON'S.

BUY your Drugs and Medicines at ASTON'S.

HOWARD ASSOCIATION,

PHILADELPHIA.

Important Announcement.

TO all persons afflicted with Sexual Diseases, such as *Spermatorrhœa, Seminal Weakness, Impotence, Gonorrhœa, Gleet, Syphilis,* the Vice of *Onanism* or *Self Abuse,* &c., &c.

The HOWARD ASSOCIATION, in view of the awful destruction of human life, caused by Sexual diseases, and the deceptions practised upon the unfortunate victims of such diseases by Quacks, have directed their Consulting Surgeon, as a *charitable act* worthy of their name, to give *Medical Advice Gratis,* to all persons thus afflicted, who apply by letter, with a description of their condition, (age, occupation, habits of life, &c.,) and in cases of extreme poverty and suffering, to *furnish Medicines free of charge.*

The Howard Association is a benevolent Institution, established by special endowment for the relief of the sick and distressed, afflicted with 'Virulent and Epidemic Diseases.' It has now a surplus of means, which the Directors have voted to expend in advertising the above notice. It is needless to add that the Association commands the highest medical skill of the age and will furnish the most approved modern treatment.

Just Published by the Association, a Report on Spermatorrhœa or Seminal Weakness the vice of Onanism, Masturbation or Self-Abuse and other Diseases of the Sexual Organs by the Consulting Surgeon, which will be sent by mail (in a sealed envelope,) *Free of Charge,* on the receipt of two stamps for postage.

Address Dr. GEO. R. CALHOUN, Consulting Surgeon, Howard Association No 2 South NINTH street, Philadelphia, Pa. By order of the Directors.

EZRA D HEARTWELL, President.
GEO. FAIRCHILD, *Secretary.*
February 12 1857. 1y

1000 Lbs. Old Copper

WANTED, for which I will pay Stoves or Tin Ware.

H. LINDSEY.

March 20, 1856.—tf

North Carolina Form Book.

JUST received and for SALE at ASTON'S.

DR. W. H. MURDOCH,

HAVING permanently located at the residence of R. P. Wells, Esq., on Turkey Creek, on the direct road from Asheville to Sandy Mush, Spring Creek, &c., offers his professional services to the citizens of the surrounding country. He will always be found at home, except when absent on professional business. mar26.1857

James' Neuralgic Liquid.

A certain cure for Rheumatism, Neuralgia, Cramp Colic, &c. Just received and for sale at ASTON'S.

Aug. 21.

ASHEVILLE NEWS:

North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company.

AT the Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Mutual Insurance Company, held on the 14th inst., the following persons were elected Directors and Officers for the ensuing year:

DIRECTORS:

Henry D. Turner, Raleigh.
J. R. Williams, do.
T. H. Selby, do.
C. W. D. Hutchings, do.
Kemp P. Battle, do.
George Little, do.
James M. Towles, do.
James E. Hoyt, Washington.
Alex. Mitchell, Newbern.
Joshua G. Wright, Wilmington.
John M. Jones, Elenton.
W. W. Griffin, Elizabeth City.
F. F. Fagan, Plymouth.
J. W. Harrell, Murfreesboro.
H. B. Williams, Charlotte.
George A. Smith, Milton.
O. F. Long, Hillsboro'.
Joseph White, Anson county.
Josh. Boner, Salem.
A. T. Summey, Asheville.

OFFICERS OF THE COMPANY.

T. H. Selby, President.
H. D. Turner, Vice President.
John H. Bryan, Attorney.
Hamden S. Smith, Secretary and Treasurer.
T. H. Selby, *ex officio*, } Executive Committee
John R. Williams, } Executive Committee
C. W. D. Hutchings, } Executive Committee

This Company has been in successful operation over 10 years, and continues to take risks upon all classes of property in the State, (except Steam Mills and Turpentine Distilleries,) upon favorable terms. Its Policies now cover property amounting to $4,737,649, a large portion of which is in country risks; and its present Capital is over Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars, in bonds, properly secured.

The average cost of Insurance upon the plan of this Company has been less than one third of one per cent. per annum, on all grades of property embraced in its operations.

All communications in reference to insurance should be addressed to the Secretary, post paid. HAMDEN S. SMITH, Sec.

A. T. Summey, Agent, Asheville.
Raleigh, March 12, '57. 1y

North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company.

OFFICE, RALEIGH, N. C.

THIS Company insures the lives of individuals for one year, a term of years, or for life, on the Mutual principle, the assured for life participating in the profits of the Company. For policies granted for the whole term of life, when the premium therefor amounts to $30, a note may be given for one half the amount of the premium bearing interest at 6 per cent without guaranty.

The prompt manner in which all losses have been paid by this Company together with the low rates of premium, present great inducements to such as are disposed to insure.

Slaves are insured for a term of from one to five years, for two thirds their value.

All losses are paid within 90 days after satisfactory proof is presented.

DIRECTORS.

Charles E. Johnson,	Wm. W. Holden,
Wm. D. Haywood,	Wm. D. Cooke,
James F. Jordan,	R. H. Battle,
Quinten Busbee,	Wm. H. Jones,
H. W. Husted,	P. F. Pescud,
Wm. H. McKee,	K. P. Battle.
Charles B. Root,	

OFFICERS.

Dr. Charles E. Johnson, President,
William D. Haywood, Vice President.
R. H. Battle, Secretary,
William H. Jones, Treasurer,
H. W. Husted, Attorney,
Charles E. Johnson, M. D. } Medical
William H. McKee, M. D. } Board of
Richd. B. Haywood, M. D. } Consultation.
Q. Busbee, }
W. H. McKee, } Executive Committee.
Charles B. Root, }

For further information, the public are referred to the pamphlets, and forms of proposal, which may be obtained at the Office of the Company, or any of its Agencies.

Communications should be addressed, (post paid,) to R. H. BATTLE, Secretary.

A. T. Summey, Agent, Asheville.
Raleigh, March 12, 1857—1y.

ASHEVILLE Mutual Insurance Company,

AT a meeting of the members of the *Asheville Mutual Insurance Company*, convened in Asheville on Friday October 17th the following Board of Directors and Officers were elected to serve during the year, viz:

DIRECTORS.

James W. Patton, W. D. Rankin, J. M. Blair, N. W. Woodfin, J. F. Patton, B. J. Smith, Hugh Johnston, Ephraim Clayton, M. Patton.

OFFICERS.

J. R. Osborne, President.
W. W. McDowell, Vice President.
J. B. Rankin, Secretary and Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

J. W. Patton, W. D. Rankin, M. Patton.

MEDICAL BOARD.

J. F. E. Hardy, M. D.
J. D. Boyd, " "
W. L. Hilliard, " "

ATTORNIES.

Z. B. Vance, A. S. Merrimon.

All communications should be addressed to
J. B. RANKIN, *Secretary.*
Asheville, Nov. 15, 1856.

COME ALONG!

1000 pounds Sal Soda; 300 of Epsom Salts; 500 Putty; 100 gallons Spirits Turpentine; 2 500 lbs. White Lead in Oil; 500 lbs. Dry White Lead.
Just received and for sale at ASTON'S.
Sept. 24.

Fresh Stock.

JUST received a full stock of fresh and genuine drugs and medicines at the Brick Corner, *No. 1 Aston's Block.*

SPRING GOODS!

—0—

GAINES, DEAVER & CO.

ARE now receiving, at the old stand of Rankin & Pulliam, a general stock of *SPRING GOODS*, embracing every article usually found in a retail store in this country. They solicit a call from those wishing to buy, and promise to exhibit as pretty and as cheap Goods as the market can afford. Give us a call before purchasing elsewhere, and we will do you good.
April 9, 1857.

Dr. Clopton's Infirmary.

DR. JAS. CLOPTON, who has visited Raleigh, and all the principal towns in Carolina, for several years practicing his profession, has permanently located at Huntsville, Alabama, where he is prepared to treat, *in all successfully*, the following diseases, to-wit: Asthma, Diseases of the Throat, Scrofula, Glandular Swellings, Tumors, Scrofulous Cancers, Ulcers on the face, and all diseases of the skin, eyes, &c., arising from an impure state of the blood.

Testimonials of the highest character can be given, from the most respectable families of Carolina.

All communications must contain a three cent stamp to pay for the return letter.

TESTIMONIAL.

Lexington, Davidson Co. N. C., May 11, 1857.

Dr. J. A. Clopton: Dear Sir:—Yours of May 6, was received at home (Jamestown, Guilford Co.) yesterday, but I had not then time to answer. I came here to-day to court, and made some inquiry as to the cases which had been under your care and attention, and learned that two very important cures had been effected by your medicines. That of Mr. Samuel Bingham, of Mocksville, and Archibald P. Carter, Esq., of Davie county, who were willing to testify in your behalf in the suit, had it not been settled. Mr. Mabry was also referring to an important cure of a young lady that was at his house as she went on her way to see you.

I have a small hard, dry scab on my cheek which is getting a little sore. Doctor, what will cure it? It has been there for several years.

Most Respectfully,
GEORGE C. MENDENHALL.

More than 1000 cases have been cured. The names of a few will be given:—Samuel Bingham Mocksville N. C, Archibald P. Carter, Mocksville; Miss Mattie Robertson, Pine Hall N. C; Wm. C. Adams, Madison N. C; Francis Dorsett Pittsboro'; Mrs. John Holland, Fayetteville; T. W. Marshall, Beaufort. Circulars will be forwarded to any that may desire them.

July 9, 1857.

Concentrated Lye.

Warranted to make soap without lime or ashes, and with but little trouble; making a good article of soft washing soap at a cost of about 50 cents per hundred pounds. Full direction for making all kinds of soap accompany each box. Call and get a box and give it a trial, and if it does not do all I claim for it, then my name is not ASTON.

August 13, 1857.

This Way, Squire.

Cantwell's Justice of the North Carolina Magistrate, a practical guide to the laws of the State and the decisions of the Supreme Court, defining the duties and Jurisdiction of the Justice of the Peace out of Court, under the Revised Code of 1854'5 together with full instructions and numerous and new forms and precedents.

BY EDWARD CANTWELL, L. L. B.
Counsellor at Law.

One Volume of nearly 600 pages. Just received and for sale at ASTON'S.

On the receipt of $4 00 the work will be sent by mail prepaid to any address. Address
E. J. ASTON.
Asheville, N. C.

NEW FIRM.

THE undersigned have formed a partnership for the purpose of conducting the

MERCANTILE BUSINESS,

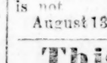
in the house formerly occupied by W. D. Rankin & Co., in the name of GAINES, DEAVER & CO., where they hope to see and serve all the old patrons of the house, and new customers not a few.

M. M. GAINES,
W. H. DEAVER,
A. GAINES.

Asheville, Jan. 1, 1857.

A. G. KERN,

(Lately Professor of Music in Greensboro' Female College.)



Furnishes the best PIANOS of any first-class maker that purchasers may prefer, *at factory prices.* If the selection is left to him, he will order, in every case, from the house which is acknowledged by competent judges to be at this time the best in the world! Assemble may be seen at Dr. Hilliard's, in this place. For further information apply to Prof. J. Hildebrand {Asheville, Sept. 3, 1857.

THE most extensive assortment of Boots and Shoes ever offered in Asheville, for sale by RANKIN & CHAPMAN.
April 3. tf

NEW COPARTNERSHIP.

THE undersigned having associated themselves under the name and style of

SUMMEY, McDOWELL & CO.

for the purpose of transacting the mercantile business in this place, would respectfully call the attention of their old friends and customers to the fact, and offer their services to them in supplying them with the comforts and luxuries of life, on as reasonable terms as any other establishment in these regions.

They will be found at the old stand,

Opposite Eagle Hotel,

with a good stock and attentive clerks, all ready and willing to accommodate with such articles as they may need.

A. T. SUMMEY,
W. W. McDOWELL,
D. F. SUMMEY.

Jan. 1, 1857.

U. S. MAIL LINE

From Asheville to Salisbury.

THIS Line is now stocked with fresh and good Horses, new Coaches, and steady, sober and experienced Drivers. It is 20 miles the nearest route to Salisbury, and points east; and it is also cheaper than any other.

Over 100 miles of this line is stocked with the most comfortable and splendid

14 Passenger Coaches

in the Southern country. Give this route a trial and if satisfaction is not given, the money will in every instance be refunded.

Leaves Asheville Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, at 7 o'clock, a. m.

Office at Gudger's Hotel, Asheville.
C. S. BROWN, *Contractor.*
October 5, 1857. 3m

Strictly for Cash.

FOR sale a lot of Tennessee Superfine FLOUR, at $3 per sack, by
Nov. 19. SMITH & CHAPMAN.

ICE! ICE!

D. **F. Summey** would inform his friends and the public that his ICE HOUSE will be open each morning from 5 1-2 to 6 1-2 o'clock, at which time he will furnish ICE to those wishing it at one and a half cents per pound. If not called for within the time specified an additional half cent per pound will be charged.

June 11, 1857. tf

100 Large Quarto [Family BIBLES, just received at ASTON'S.

FACTS *FOR THE* PEOPLE.

WE are now receiving at our old stand, on the public square, Asheville, the largest and most varied stock of

SPRING AND SUMMER, STAPLE AND FANCY

DRY GOODS,

Ready Made Clothing, Hats & Caps, Boots & Shoes, Hardware, Crockery, Saddlery, Drugs, Dye Stuffs, &c.

Ever offered for sale in this market. Our Goods have been selected with great care in the cities of Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York, with especial reference to the wants of the *PEOPLE.* And as our stock embraces almost every article, "useful as well as ornamental," we flatter ourselves that we shall be enabled to please all who may favor us with a call. The object of this notice is not to publish self-praise, and hold ourselves up in a flattering light before the community; but simply to inform you that we have a heavier and better assorted stock of Goods now arriving, than any other house in town, to which we expect to be continually making large additions throughout the season; and to extend to you, one and all, an invitation to visit us and examine our stock, before making your purchases. The styles of our Goods are unsurpassed, and we are determined not to be undersold; and as we make no promise that we do not intend to perform, you may come with the assurance of being satisfactorily accommodated. Country produce taken in exchange for Goods.

RANKIN & CHAPMAN.
April 2 1857.

JUST AT HAND.

A fresh stock of Fish Figs and Family Fixings generally; Cheese Candies, Crackers and Candles; Raisins Almonds, and all sorts of goodthings, "too numerous to mention." Don't delay calling—I can't keep them.

Remember the place. DOYLE'S.
Oct. 15

NOTICE.

Is hereby given that after publication of this advertisement for six weeks application will be made to the Commissioner of Pensions for the issue of a duplicate of Warrant No. 90495. Act of March 3rd 1855 issued to James Guthrie, late a private in Captain E. H. Cunningham's Company, in Col. J. G. Bynum's Regiment in removing the Cherokee Indians; the same having been lost, and a caveat against its location entered in the General Land Office, date 4th Nov. 1857.

J. M. ISRAEL,
Atto. for Claimant.
Asheville, November 12 1857. 6w

OUR GOODS

HAVE been purchased by one of the best buyers this market affords, and for Ladies and Gentlemen's wear we challenge competition. Call and examine our stock of

CLOTHING,

and if we can't please the most fastidious, we are much mistaken.

HATS,

From a cap for 37 1-2 cents to a $5 50 Beaver of any grade, and any color from milky white to sooty black.

THE LADIES

Will also find Bonnets, Shoes, Zephyr Hoods, Capes, Gauntlets, Necklaces, materials for Talmas, and everything necessary to adorn and beautify, as well as to make comfortable.

Don't mistake the place.
SUMMEY, McDOWELL & CO.

FINAL NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to the firm of SMITH & McDOWELL, will find their Notes and Accounts in the hands of *Col. J. M. ISRAEL*—His room is in the North Wing of the Court House. He has also all the debts due the estate of the late James M. Smith. All persons indebted to either are most respectfully requested to call on Col. Israel or myself and settle up. I do not wish to put any one to cost, but the business must be closed up, and this is the final notice.

TO my old friends and customers, I would say that I have associated myself with the Messrs. Summey in the

MERCANTILE BUSINESS,

at their old stand opposite the Eagle Hotel, where I will be pleased to see them and to furnish them what Goods they may want to purchase at as low a price as any house in town can afford. Allow me to tender to you my thanks for your liberal patronage, and to express the hope that I may have the pleasure of seeing you again at Summey, McDowell & Co's.

W. W. McDOWELL.
January 29 1857.

Place an Enduring Tablet over the Spot where Repose the Remains of those you Love.

New Marble Yard,

GREENVILLE, S. C.

THE subscribers respectfully inform the citizens of this and adjoining Districts, that they have opened a MARBLE YARD in the Town of Greenville, on the Lot opposite the *Mansion House*, and adjoining Dr. Bell's Hotel, where they will promptly and faithfully attend to all orders for

TOMB-STONES,

MONUMENTS,

And any other style of Work in their line.

Having had an experience of over fifteen years in this business, they have no doubt of their ability to give ample satisfaction to all who may entrust them with their orders.

CHALMERS & ALLEN.
October 29th, 1857. 3m

State of North Carolina.

MADISON COUNTY.

In Equity—Fall Term, 1857.

John Chandler and others,
vs.
James Shelton et al.
Petition to Sell Land.

IT appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that the Defendants, James Shelton and Solomon Shelton are non-residents of this State, it is ordered by Court that publication be made for six weeks in the Asheville News, notifying the said Defendants personally to be and appear at the next Term of this Honorable Court, to be held for the county of Madison at the Court-House in Marshall on the 3rd Monday after the 4th Monday in March next, then and there to plead, answer or demur to said petition, or the same will be taken pro confesso as to them and set for hearing exparte.

Witness, J. G. Yancey, Clerk & Master for said county, at Office, the 3rd Monday after the 4th Monday in September, 1857.

JOHN G. YANCEY, C. M. E.
December 3, 1857. 6w Printer's fee $6.

PURE and Genuine Medicines always to be found at ASTON'S.

M. L. NEILSON, M. D.,

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

January 11, 1855. t

G. W. WHITSON,

SURGEON DENTIST,

ASHEVILLE, N. C.

DR. R. A. EDMONSTON,

Would inform the citizens of Jackson county, and surrounding country, that he is located permanently four miles south east of Webster, on Tuckasiege River, and is ready to attend promptly to all business entrusted to his care in the Medical Profession.

Jan. 8th, 1857. 1y

David Coleman,

Attorney at Law,
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

March 3, 1853.—tf.

W. M. HARDY,

ATTORNEY AT LAW,
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

Will practice in the counties of the 7th Judicial District and attend faithfully and punctually to all business entrusted to his care.

Asheville, Jan. 8th, 1857. tf

GEN. B. M. EDNEY

WILL practice Law regularly hereafter in the Superior Courts of Cherokee, Macon, Jackson, Haywood, Henderson, Buncombe, Madison, Yancy, Rutherford & Polk.

Office, Hendersonville, N. C. [Feb. 12'57]y

BURTON & GOLD,

Attorneys at Law,
SHELBY, CLEAVELAND COUNTY, N. C.

WILL practice in the Superior Courts of Law and Equity of all the counties in the 7th Judicial District. Shelby, April 17, 1856. tf

SMITH, BAIRD & CO.,

Dealers in Dry Goods, Groceries, and Merchandise generally;
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

CALL SOON,

And supply yourselves with *useful articles*, from the large and well selected stock now going off so rapidly, at the store of

RANKIN & CHAPMAN.
Asheville, April 9. 1857.

Furniture For Sale.

The undersigned keep constantly on hand at their shop in Asheville, a large quantity of well made and superior finished

Furniture,

of the most fashionable kind, consisting of *Chairs, Cane and Cushioned bottoms and other qualities, Sofas, Bureaus, Guitars, and a number of Violins, Bows and Strings* of the best quality. Those who are desirous of purchasing any article of Furniture of any description, will do well to call and see their assortment before purchasing elsewhere as they are determined to sell at the very lowest price and on the best terms. J. & J. HILDEBRAN.

THE SMALL FOX

HAVING lost its power to alarm and the people having began again to benefit themselves by selections from our stock of useful and beautiful

GOODS

we take this occasion to say that we are better prepared than usual to accommodate, and are rejoicing in hope of maintaining and even exceeding our share of patronage heretofore received.

SMITH, BAIRD & CO.
Asheville, May 1, 1856. tf

CARRIAGE AND BUGGY MAKING.

THE subscriber has located in Asheville for the purpose of carrying on the Carriage and Buggy making business. Repairing, &c. He has no doubt of being able to give entire satisfaction to those who may patronize him. He has an abundance of first rate dry lumber, and will work no other kind. Shop in the south end of town, opposite Triplett's blacksmith shop.

W. T. CARTER.
Asheville, June 6, 1855. tf.

Clothing, Hats, Boots and Shoes.

OUR stock of these goods is large and inviting. Our coats commence in price at $1; pants 75 cents, and vests 62 cents. Other things in proportion.

SMITH, BAIRD & CO.
May 1, 1856. tf

FRESH Drugs and Medicines always at ASTON'S.

Bank of East Tennessee.

THE undersigned will take on debts, or for Goods purchased, bills of the "Bank of East Tennessee," at 30 cents to the dollar.

Application must be made soon.

SMITH, BAIRD & CO.
Asheville, June 4th, 1857.

Butter, Chickens, Eggs.

I will pay the highest price in cash, for all the good Butter, Chickens and Eggs that may be delivered at the College Boarding House.

Asheville, Sept. 24. J. L. CRUMLEY.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

Gaines, Deaver & Co.,

Have just received an excellent assortment of Miles, City and Northern made

BOOTS & SHOES.

Asheville, July 24, 1857.

Save Your Wood,

BY buying some of my STOVES for cooking and warming your rooms.

ALSO,

Call and examine a large assortment of

TIN WARE,

of every variety, which I will sell cheap for cash or old Cooper, wholesale or retail.

Any article in my line made to order at short notice.

H. LINDSEY.
Asheville, March 20, 1856.—tf

FINE Tobacco and Cigars, for sale by RANKIN & CHAPMAN.

Dr. McLANE'S CELEBRATED VERMIFUGE AND LIVER PILLS.

Two of the best Preparations of the Age.

They are not recommended as Universal Cure-alls, but simply for what their name purports.

The Vermifuge, for expelling Worms from the human system, has also been administered with the most satisfactory results to various animals subject to Worms.

The Liver Pills, for the cure of Liver Complaint, all Bilious Derangements, Sick Headache, &c.

Purchasers will please be particular to ask for Dr. C. McLane's Celebrated Vermifuge and Liver Pills, prepared by

Fleming Bros.

SOLE PROPRIETORS, Pittsburgh, Pa., and take no other, as there are various other preparations now before the public, purporting to be Vermifuge and Liver Pills. All others, in comparison with Dr. McLane's, are worthless.

The GENUINE McLane's Vermifuge and Liver Pills can now be had at all respectable Drug Stores.

FLEMING BRO'S,
60 Wood St., Pittsburgh, Pa.
Sole Proprietors.

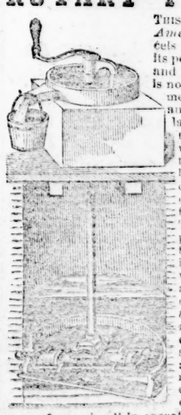
Scovil & Mead, No. 111, Charters street, New Orleans, General Wholesale Agents for the Southern States, to whom all orders must be addressed.

Sold by E. J. Aston, Asheville, N. C.
" " B. D. Miller & Co., Hendersonville.
" " C. L. Harris & Co., Rutherfordton.
" " J. M. Crayton, "
" " Hull & Grayson, Marion.
" " J. V. Blackwell, Morganton.
" " Fitzgerald, Benners & Long, Waynesville.
" " Allman & Cunningham, Franklin.

June 5, 1857. 1y

Lindsey's Double-Acting

ROTARY FORCE PUMP.



This pump has just been patented in *America* and *England*, and far excels any pump heretofore invented; its peculiarities are *simplicity, power*, and *cheapness*. Its simplicity; there is nothing about it but iron and cast metal, and it can be taken apart and put up by any one, and will last for an age. It has the power to raise water *hundreds of feet*, with the extra expense of $3 and the price of pipe. Water rises in it by hand 100 feet per minute! For cheapness; a No 1. pump (for all ordinary purposes) complete, and fifty feet of pipe, costs but $30! The handle at the top, turns the pipe and pump, and every revolution, fills the cylinder twice, affording an abundant supply of water with the least possible expense and labor. It is peculiarly adapted to *deep wells, rail road stations, salt works, mining and manufacturing purposes.* Wherever it is introduced, the old force, suction and chain pumps will disappear. Practical and scientific men pronounce it as without an equal, for all that is here claimed for it. The *Scientific American*, after seeing it in operation, says, "*This pump is very simple in construction, not liable to get out of order, durable, easily operated and economical; we regard it as an excellent improvement.*" Circulars with an accurate drawing and full description sent free of charge to all parts of the country. No. 1, has a one inch pipe; No. 2, 1¼ inches; No. 8, 1½ inches; and the prices $30, $42, $54; the No. 2 and 8 are designed for *very deep wells, railroad stations*, &c. where much water is required. The subscriber is the general agent for the sale of these pumps to all parts of the world, and *exclusive agent for* New York. Orders must be accompanied by the *cash*, and should be explicit as to the kind of pump wanted, depth of well, shipping address, &c. They will meet prompt attention. A pump and pipe weighs about 170 lbs. No charge for shipping or cartage. Wells over 50 feet should have extra gearing, which costs $8.

JAMES M. EDNEY,
Com. Merchant, 56 John St. N. Y.

For sale by H. Lindsey, Inventor, Asheville, N. C.

Almanacs for 1857.

Almanacs for 1857 to be had *gratis*, on application at ASTON'S.

FRESH RAISENS.—A few boxes just received, at ASTON'S.

BLACKSMITHING.

THE subscriber is still carrying on the

Smithing Business,

in all its branches, at his old stand in the south end of Asheville.

The superior manner in which he has horses shod, carriages, buggies and wagons ironed, and all manner of work done, are too well known to render it necessary to more than say, he will, as heretofore turn out none but good work.

Country produce of all kinds taken in payment for work, but it must in every case be delivered before the work is removed.

ELIAS L. TRIPLETT,
March 20, 1856.—1y

Fresh Citron.

JUST received at ASTON'S.
April, 17.

FALL TRADE, 1857.

B. B. HOPKINS, WM. H. RYAN,
ROBERT HULL, THOS. W. ATKINSON.

HOPKINS, HULL & CO.

Wholesale Dealers in

British, French & American

DRY GOODS,

No. 258 Baltimore Street,

Opposite Hanover Street, BALTIMORE.

We beg to call the attention of buyers to our Fall Stock, which comprises a most attractive assortment of

British, French & American Dry Goods.

In each department we shall exhibit a large assortment, and shall be prepared to furnish any article needed in our line. Many of our goods we receive directly from the manufacturers, and our facilities enable us to supply our customers with goods as low as they can purchase them in any of the Eastern Cities. We would further state, that by the recent completion of many of the Western and Southern Railroads tending towards Baltimore, we have increased facilities for forwarding goods with dispatch. We solicit a call from prompt buyers, and shall endeavor to make it to their interest to deal with us.

Very Respectfully,
HOPKINS, HULL & CO.
258 *Baltimore Street.*

Orders promptly attended to.
Baltimore, Sept. 10th, 1857. 4m

RORABACK'S,

WEST SIDE OF MAIN STREET,

Opposite Gaines, Deaver & Co.,

Is the Place to Buy

DRY GOODS,

HARDWARE, CROCKERY AND A GENERAL Assortment of staple & fancy

GOODS

POSITIVELY

At 40 per cent. less than such Goods

Can be bought for elsewhere,
In this market.

Call and judge for yourself.
Asheville, Nov. 12, 1857.

A LARGE stock of fashionable READY MADE CLOTHING, just received, and for sale, by RANKIN & CHAPMAN.
April 3. tf

DR. J. F. E. HARDY AND DR. W. L. HILLIARD,

HAVE this day associated themselves in the practice of *MEDICINE*, in its various branches.

Dr. Hardy, who is daily in the village, will be always ready to examine cases and make out prescriptions, and when in his power visit cases in the country. Dr. Hilliard will attend to his town and country practice, as usual. We would especially call the attention of all persons laboring under diseases requiring Surgical aid, to this card. We will take especial pains to assist all persons living at a distance in procuring suitable boarding houses in or near the village, and render them such relief as the profession is capable of.

Office at Dr. Hilliard's Drug Store.
Asheville, January 2, 1855.—tf

Arthur's **Self-Sealing Fruit Cans.**

For Sale by

SMITH & CHAPMAN.

RANKIN & CHAPMAN,

DEALERS IN

DRY GOODS, HOSIERY, FANCY GOODS, HATS, CAPS, BONNETS, BOOTS, SHOES, CROCKERY, HARDWARE, DRUGS, GROCERIES, &c., &c.,

Asheville, N. C.

April 3, 1857. tf

DISSOLUTION.

THE Firm of W. D. Rankin & Co. was dissolved by mutual consent of the parties, on the 1st January, 1857.

W. D. RANKIN,
R. W. PULLIAM,
M. M. GAINES.

ALL who wish to purchase *cheap Goods* can be accommodated at the store of RANKIN & CHAPMAN.
April 3. tf

NOTICE.

THE undersigned having purchased the interest of *L. CHAPMAN*, in the firm of Chapman, Rankin & Co., will continue the business at the old stand, under the name and style of Rankin & Chapman.

J. B. RANKIN,
R. H. CHAPMAN.

Asheville, Jan. 1, 1857.

MATERIALS

FOR MAKING

Roraback's

Compound Chemical Toilet and Washing

SOAP.

For sale by SMITH & CHAPMAN.
July 9, 1857.

J. D. REYNOLDS, M. D.,

(A Graduate of the Medical University of Nashville.)

HAVING permanently located in Asheville, offers his Professional services to the citizens of town and country.

Office and residence, one door south of Asheville Hotel. March 27, 1856. tf

FLAX SEED.

I WISH to purchase 500 bushels of good clean Flax Seed. E. J. ASTON.
April 16.

JUST received a fine lot of Hammered Tire Iron by RANKIN & CHAPMAN.
August 7, 1856.